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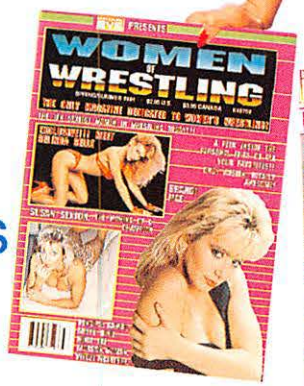

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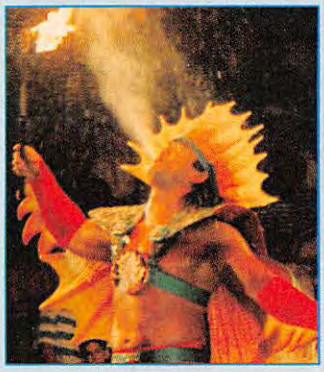

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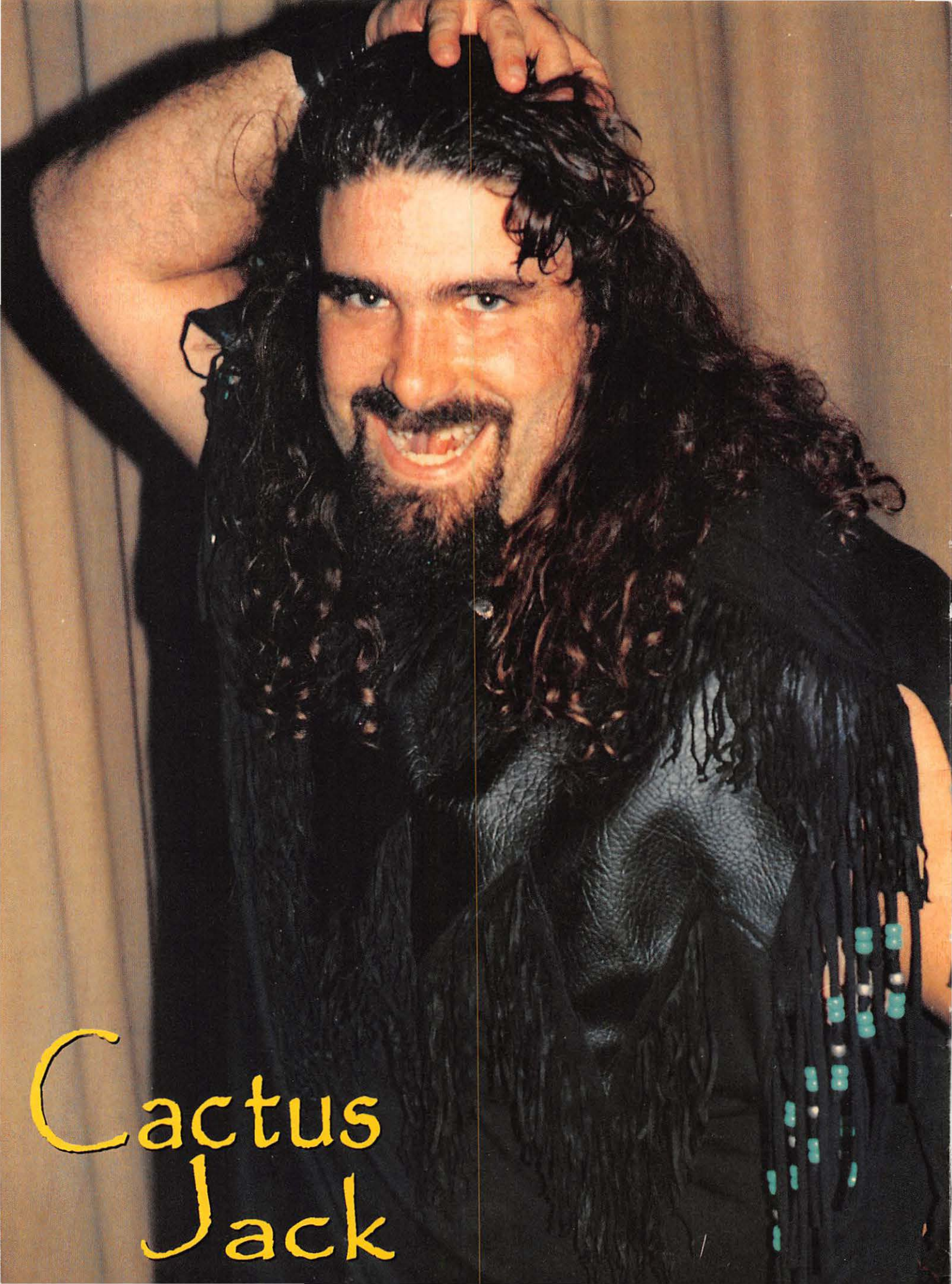
WRESTLING EYE Magazine is published monthly by Jems Inc. Executive editorial and advertising offices: 55 Ave. of Americas #309, N.Y., NY 10013 (212) 925-3115. Single copy price—$2.95 U.S. $3.95 Canada 12-issue subscription rate—$24.00. Price valid for U.S. APO/FPO addresses only. All other 12-issue subscription rate $30.00. Payable in U.S. funds. POSTMASTER: Send change of address information to 55 Ave. of Americas #309, N.Y., NY 10013. Printed in the USA. © 1991 by JEMS INC. No material may be reproduced without written permission. This publication is purchased with the understanding that information presented is from many sources for which there can be no warranty or responsibility by the publisher as to accuracy or completeness. WRESTLING EYE assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. All rights reserved.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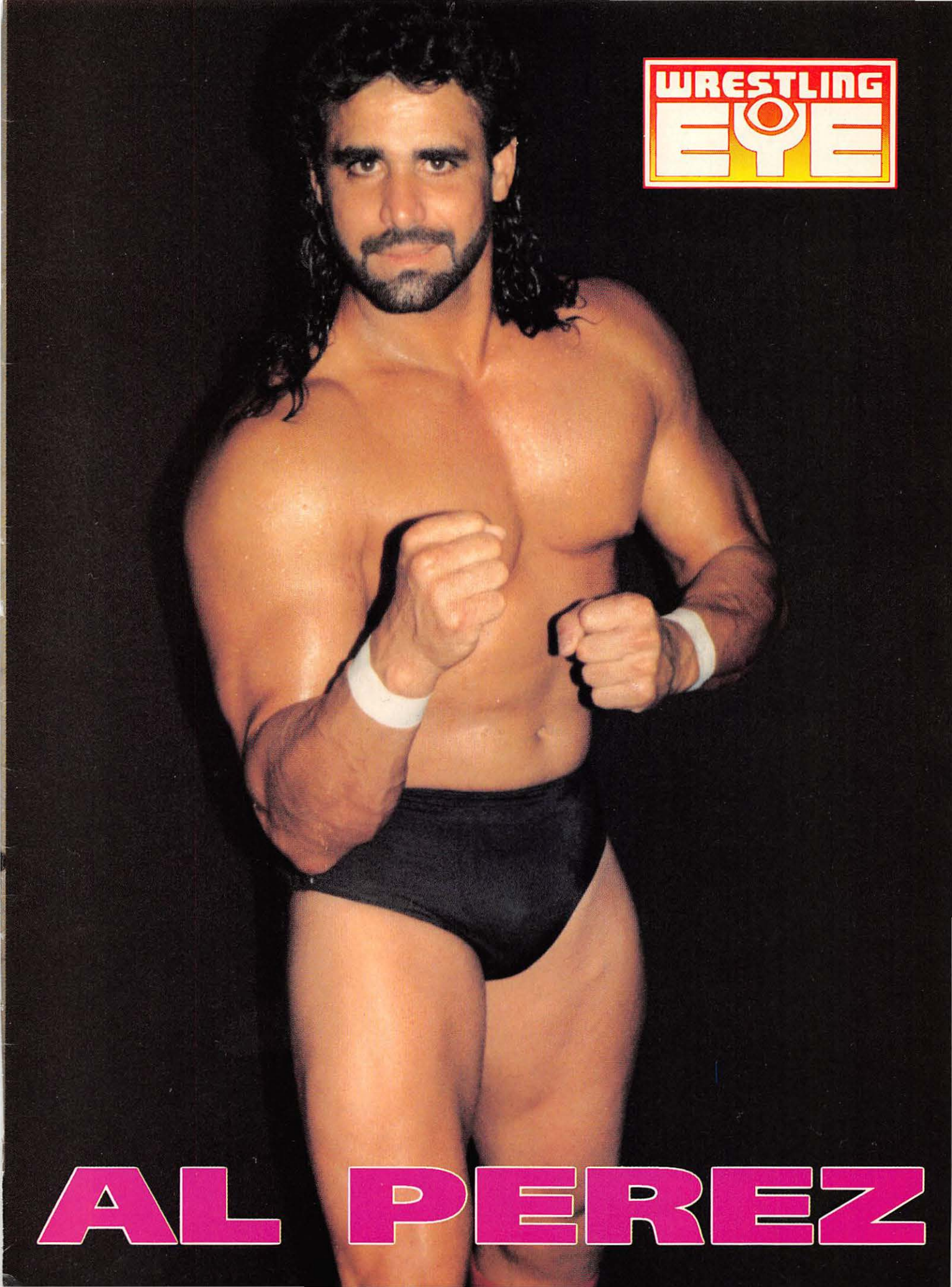
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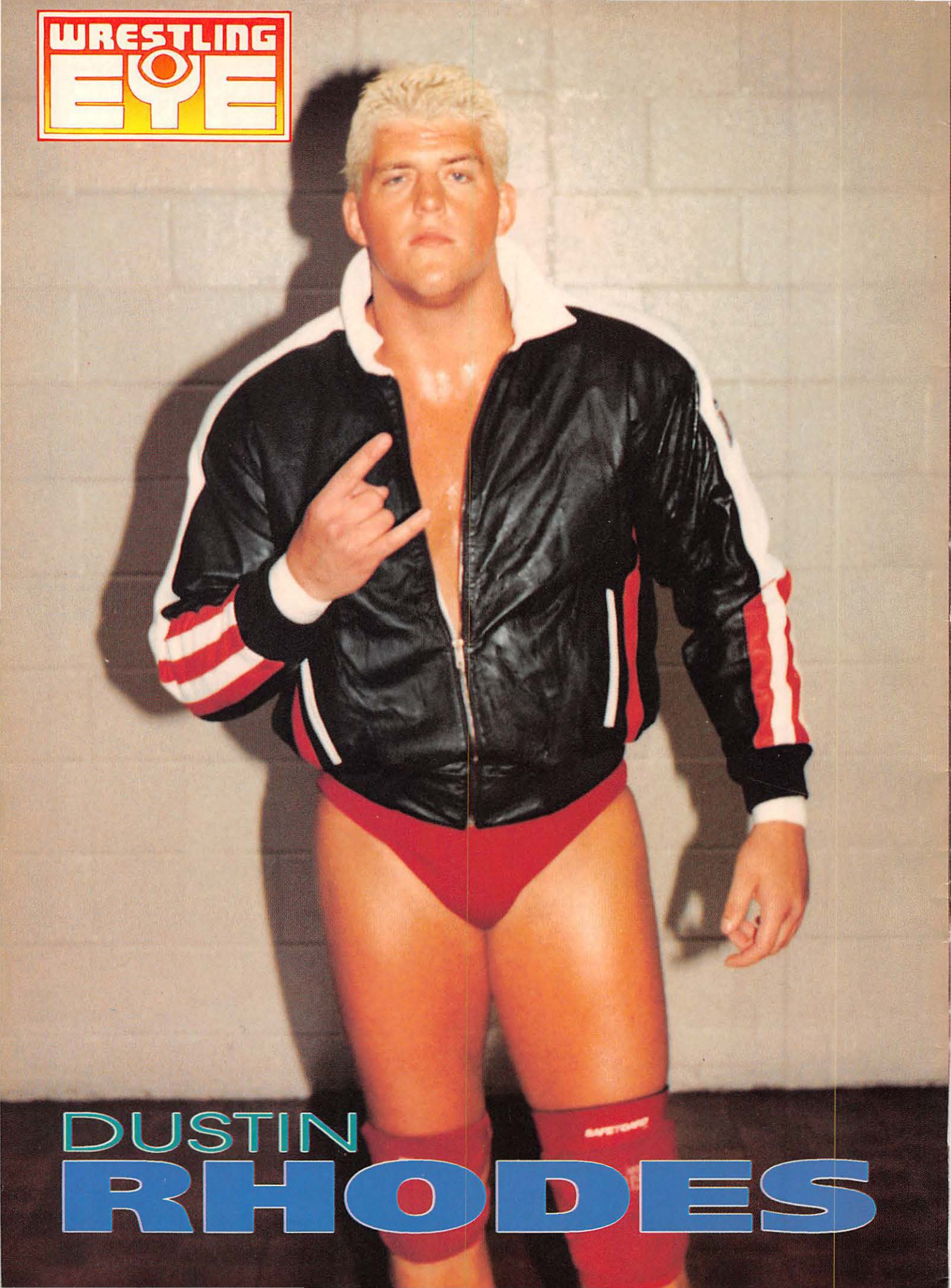

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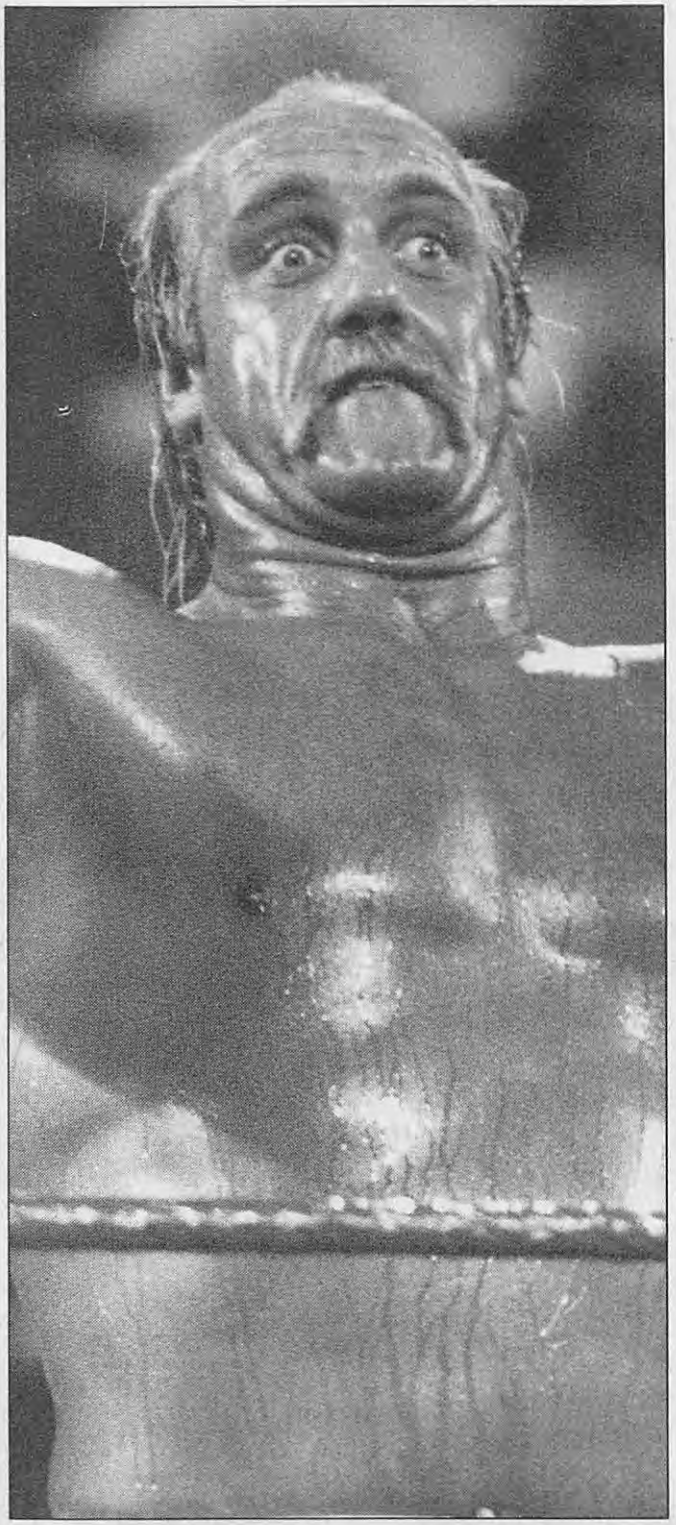
EDITORIAL

THE END OF THE HOGAN ERA



WRESTLEMANIA is just around the corner so this seems like a perfect time to examine what the pro wrestling world would be like without Hulk Hogan. After all, the Hulkster has dominated the grappling scene since he first came to the WWF in 1984 and it really seems unlikely that he won't be around for another decade.

But, yes, it's true. The time is fast approaching when Hulk will hang up his wrestling boots for good and go on to simpler pastures. He has been injured many times during his illustrious career, and furthermore, he is aging. There's no way that the Hulkster can continue to represent the WWF as their champion forever. After all, as much as we don't like to admit it, the man is only human and deserves some time to kick back a bit, just like the rest of us. The only thing I can safely say is that the wrestling world will certainly miss him.

The Hulkster was almost single-handedly responsible for making wrestling as popular as it is today. He, along with the WWF, helped to revolutionize the sport and whether you like him or hate him, he certainly deserves most of the credit. Wrestling without Hulk Hogan is almost unthinkable, yet it is bound to happen. The WWF realizes this and are desperately trying to come up with someone who is as charismatic and as well loved, but so far their attempts have fallen short.

The sport needs someone fresh and exciting that can fill the Hulkster's shoes, but alas, that mystery person just doesn't seem to exist. Men like Ric Flair and Bret Hart are mat masters, but they have been around for so long, they lack the dynamic appeal needed to propel the sport to glory. Newcomers like Sid Justice and The Undertaker have got some great gimmicks, but it's doubtful that they have the staying power necessary to become legends in their own time.

No, right now there is nobody that can even remotely come close to what Hulk Hogan has done for the sport. While the inevitable must happen and Hogan must one day step aside, he should feel secure in the fact that he certainly left his mark on the sport and Hulkamania will surely live on forever!!!

Hubie Marx
Editor

RICKY STEAMBOAT
BACK HOME IN WCW

BY HOWARD FEINTUCH

Few wrestlers can claim to have had the amount of success that Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat has experienced. During the mid and late eighties, Steamboat was among the top attractions in pro wrestling. He has held major titles in both the WWF and WCW and is one of the few men to have ever scored a clean pinfall over Ric Flair. Yes, Steamboat has certainly enjoyed the spotlight of glory, but alas, he never seems able to enjoy a long stay there.

It is not uncommon to see Ricky Steamboat jump promotions on a frequent basis. Most recently, after a disappointing stint with the WWF, Ricky once again jumped ship and found immediate success in the rings of the ailing WCW, but it was in the WWF where he first made his mark.

Back in 1987 at Wrestlemania 3, Ricky Steamboat reached the pinnacle of his career when he defeated Randy Savage for the Intercontinental title. He became a champion in the world's top wrestling organization, and his new-found status in the WWF enabled him to gain instant celebrity recognition in the mainstream media. It seemed that Ricky Steamboat was firmly ensconced in his new role as champion and would rule for quite a long time. However, just two months later, Steamboat's title reign came to a startling end when he was upset by then unranked newcomer, The Honky Tonk Man. After losing the championship, Ricky decided to leave wrestling for a while to spend time with wife Bonnie and newborn son, Richard, Jr.

For quite some time no one heard much about The Dragon. Insiders reported that he spent his days managing his gym in Charlotte, North Carolina and would never return to the squared circle. It wasn't long, however, before the competitive bug began biting at Steamboat once again.

It was the fall of 1988 when Eddie Gilbert received a brutal beating at the hands of Ric Flair and the Four Horsemen. Hungry for revenge, Gilbert challenged Flair and his partner to a tag match. Gilbert's partner for that fateful match was only known as the mysterious Mr. X. When the match began, both Ric Flair and fans alike were shocked to see Mr. X revealed as none other than Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat. You have to remember that Flair and Steamboat had been former partners and most recently bitter rivals the last time they came eye to eye. At their last confrontation in New Jersey in 1984, the battle was so intense that it is considered legendary by wrestling historians. Needless to say, Flair was so shocked to see Steamboat that Ricky easily pinned the great Nature Boy.

With that pinfall victory, the Steamboat-Flair feud was once again ignited. Over the next several months, fans were treated to what many consider to be the best series of matches that took place in the eighties. Ricky Steamboat finally realized a life-long dream when he defeated Ric Flair for the NWA world heavyweight championship at the Chi-Town Rumble PPV show. Steamboat's reign was short lived. In a thrilling match at WrestleWar 89, Flair regained the belt and was attacked and injured by Terry Funk

The WWF's Dragon gimmick was totally ridiculous.

Steamboat is always ready to do his best. (photo by Schultz)

RICKY STEAMBOAT
BACK HOME IN WCW

during the post-match festivities. While Flair was busy with Funk, Steamboat was out of the world title picture. Shortly after his feud with Flair, Ricky began battling one of the world's best talents, Lex Luger. Surprisingly, Luger was the one who received most of the fan's cheers during their battles, even though he was the so-called villain and Steamboat was the hero. Wrestling experts surmised that the reason for the fans' unusual response was that they had grown weary of the boring family image that Steamboat was portraying. They were also fed up with the constant display of his wife and young son during matches and craved more excitement. Shortly after his feud with Luger, Ricky disappeared from the NWA. Officials claimed a serious foot injury was the reason for his departure, but well informed observers of the sport knew it was really because of a contractual dispute.

So once again Ricky Steamboat dropped into obscurity and was barely heard from. In the Fall of 1988, his wife provided the information that The Dragon was busy with independent promotions in North Carolina and tours with Japanese promotions. Steamboat did make headlines when he faced The Great Muta in Japan, but fans were losing interest. At the time, Steamboat was widely considered to be a has-been, one who would never again see action in a major promotion like the WWF or WCW.

Well, all the critics were wrong. Ricky Steamboat wanted one last shot at glory and once again surprised his detractors by signing a contract with the WWF last year, but this may have proved to be a major mistake. He came on board as The Dragon and breathed fire before his matches. His gimmick was silly, his outfit looked like a child's Halloween costume and his win-loss record

Steamboat is a true family man.

Ricky's move proved to be the right one for his career.

was poorer than ever. Ricky knew he couldn't continue on like this. He felt that he wasn't getting the chances he was promised by WWF czar, Vince McMahon, and gave his notice to quit shortly after he arrived. When the Federation's hierarchy wanted to put Steamboat in one last series of matches for a television taping, The Dragon refused and stated he would wrestle house shows but didn't want to work on television. Insiders reported that he was fired on the spot.

This time when Ricky disappeared from the WWF, fans didn't have the chance to wonder what had become of him. Soon after his departure from the Stamford, Connecticut based World Wrestling Federation, Steamboat appeared in WCW rings. He made his debut in a most thundering way. At the November Clash of Champions telecast, Dustin Rhodes and a mystery partner were slated to face world tag team champions, The Enforcers. The man who came out with Dustin wore a lizard mask. When the mask was peeled off, it's owner was revealed as none other than Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat. Steamboat and his partner Dustin Rhodes went on to defeat The Enforcers and capture the WCW tag team titles.

So, Ricky Steamboat is once again back in the mainstream wrestling world. The Hawaiian grappler has gold around his waist once again and shows no signs of relinquishing it. Now the only question most long time fans must be pondering is, how long will it be before Ricky decides to drop out of sight again? Stay tuned! ❑

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"DID THE UNDERTAKER PUT THE WARRIOR TO REST?"

BY STEVE MOELLER

If recent events are to be taken as truth, rarely has a single wrestler caused as much turmoil and devastation in a wrestling promotion as recently has been caused by the Undertaker in the WWF.

Not only did the diabolical graveyard denizen, with the able assistance of Ric Flair, steal the WWF World Championship from Hulk Hogan, he has virtually retired the Ultimate Warrior from WWF competition, at least that is what Vince McMahon and the WWF braintrust want fans to believe.

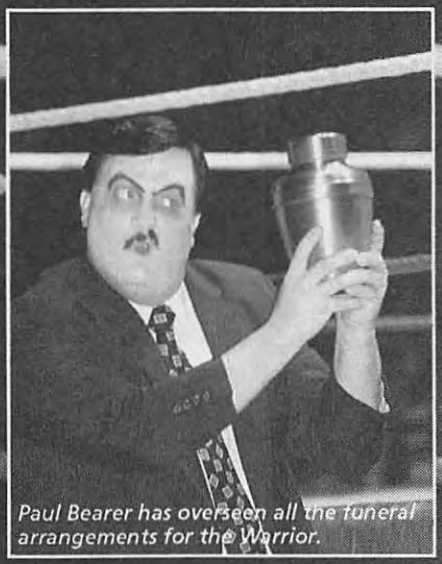
Psychic Training Sessions from Hell

The last WWF television appearance of the Ultimate Warrior took place during September in a video promo with a storyline that might have been lifted directly out of Marvel Comics. The video featured a still heroic Jake "The Snake" Roberts leading the Ultimate Warrior through a kind of freaked-out psychic training session. During the session, viewers learned that not only was Jake not heroic, he was in league with dark and sinister forces.

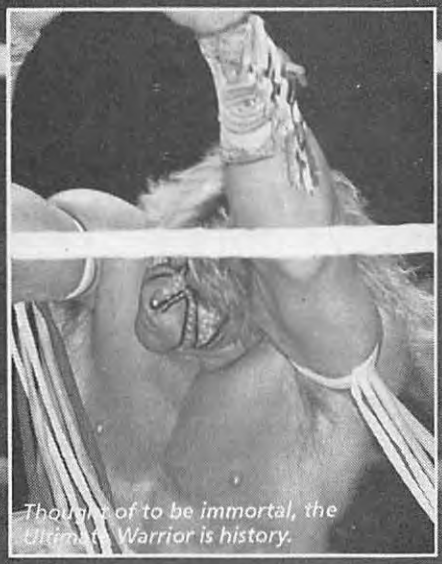
Roberts was only pretending to be the Warrior's friend and spiritual guru. Actually, he was leading the not-so-bright Ultimate Warrior into an elaborately macabre trap. Allegedly, Jake the Snake was teaching the Ultimate One the secret of withstanding the diabolical power of the Undertaker. Jake's teaching method consisted of a series of unorthodox tests which the Warrior would have to complete to gain the spiritual power necessary to deal with the dark power of the Undertaker and Paul Bearer.

It should be noted that such a plan was obviously unnecessary to even the most casual fan because the Warrior was routinely beating

The Undertaker has held world title before, many say he will again.



Paul Bearer has overseen all the funeral arrangements for the Warrior.



Thought of to be immortal, the Ultimate Warrior is history.

The Warrior has been laid to rest by the Undertaker.

the Undertaker in "Body Bag" matches in arenas across America.

The Test of the Dark Room

In any case, the Warrior's spiritual tests included being buried alive in a graveyard and then being tossed into a dark room. It was in the dark room that Jake's real villainous nature and his connection to the dark powers of the Undertaker were revealed.

Jake tossed the confused Warrior into a darkened room and locked the door. After yelling a few words of encouragement to the Warrior, the Snake flipped on the lights. The faded to black, and fans imagined all sorts of grim ghoulishness befalling the Warrior. In truth, it was the end of the Warrior's career in the WWF. But the end had nothing to do with the alleged evil power of the Undertaker.

The Real Story

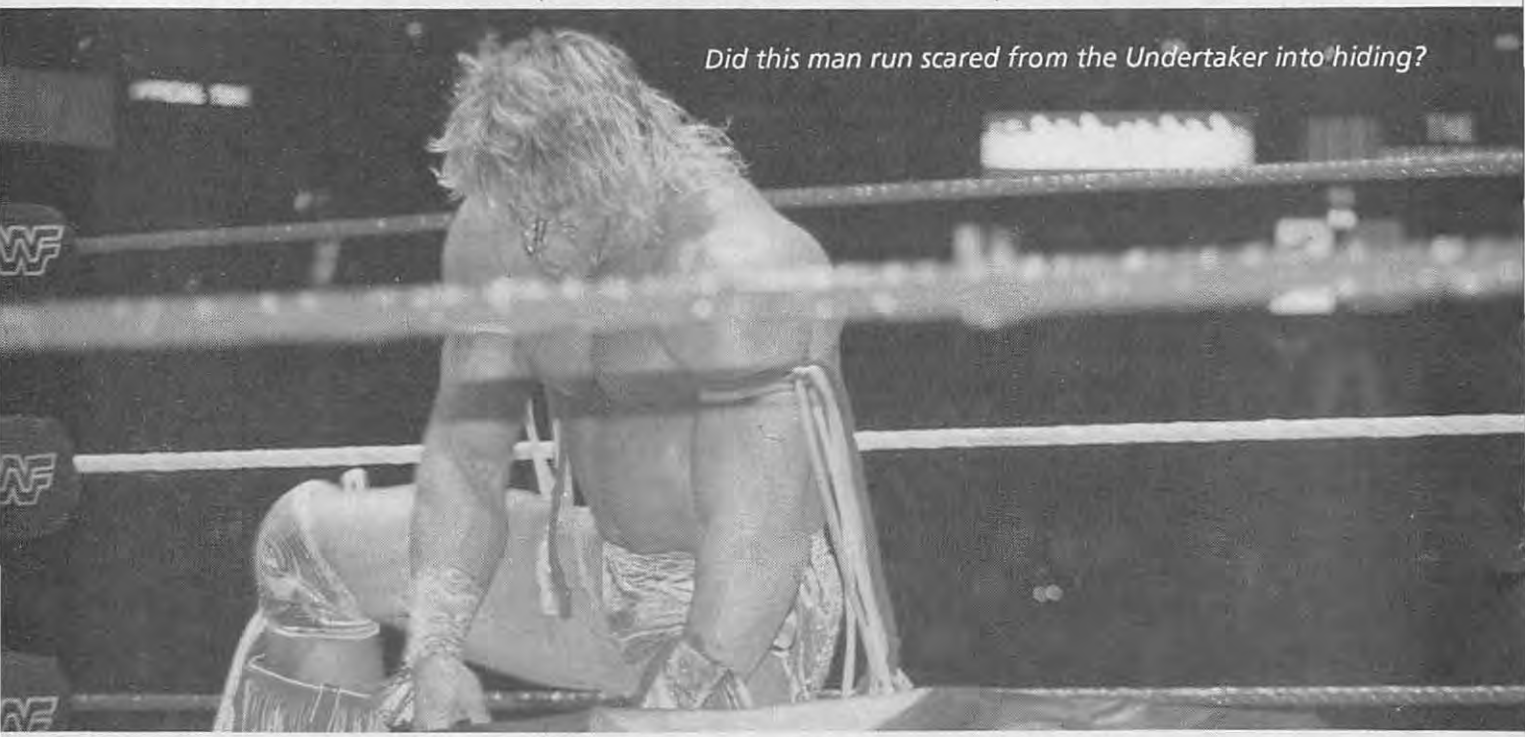
The real reason the Ultimate Warrior left the WWF was a dispute over money and booking. The Warrior wanted a new contract. He wanted the WWF to significantly alter his working schedule. Essentially, the Warrior just wanted to work on the weekends. He wanted a schedule that was much like the one Hulk Hogan works. He wanted to become, in fact, a "weekend warrior."

Actually, the Warrior had some pretty strong arguments in his favor for special treatment by the WWF hierarchy. Next to Hulk Hogan, the Warrior was Titan Sports' most marketable character. Ultimate Warrior products were among the WWF's best sellers. However, the Warrior's claim that he was the WWF's second biggest gate attraction was not quite true.

During his tenure as WWF World Champion, the Ultimate Warrior did not draw huge numbers of fans into arena shows. In fact, Randy Savage, during his championship reign, had much greater drawing power than the Ultimate One. In reviewing the situation, the WWF braintrust decided that the Warrior was simply not worth what he wanted. As a cover story, the WWF claimed they had simply "suspended" the Warrior for ninety days. But insiders in the Federation say that, in fact, the Warrior was fired for, among other things, being unreasonable and overvaluing his worth to the promotion..

And so it was not the imposing figure of the Undertaker or the treachery of Jake the Snake that banished the Warrior from the WWF. It was rather a combination of two far more dangerous monsters: those duel grim goblins, Ego and Greed.

Some insiders claim that the Warrior will eventually reappear in the WWF. Others claim that he will enter WCW when his contract obligations to the WWF are not in doubt. After all, the Warrior will be a valuable weapon for the WCW to use in its growing war with the WWF. He is the only wrestler in the world who can legitimately claim to stand 1-0 in pinfall victories over the Hulkster. The Warrior's problem, though, is that he's 0-1 against Vince McMahon. ❑



Did this man run scared from the Undertaker into hiding?

room was filled with snakes of various persuasions.

To capsulate what happened, the Warrior was bit by a snake. In the grip of a raving, gut wrenching delirium, the Warrior crashed through the bolted door and collapsed on the filthy floor outside the snake filled room. Then, as if trying to indeed put the finishing touches on the WWF career of the Warrior, the Snake signalled for a figure lurking in the shadows to come forward. It was, of course, the Undertaker.

The Undertaker laughed sardonically and advanced ominously toward the fallen Warrior. The scene

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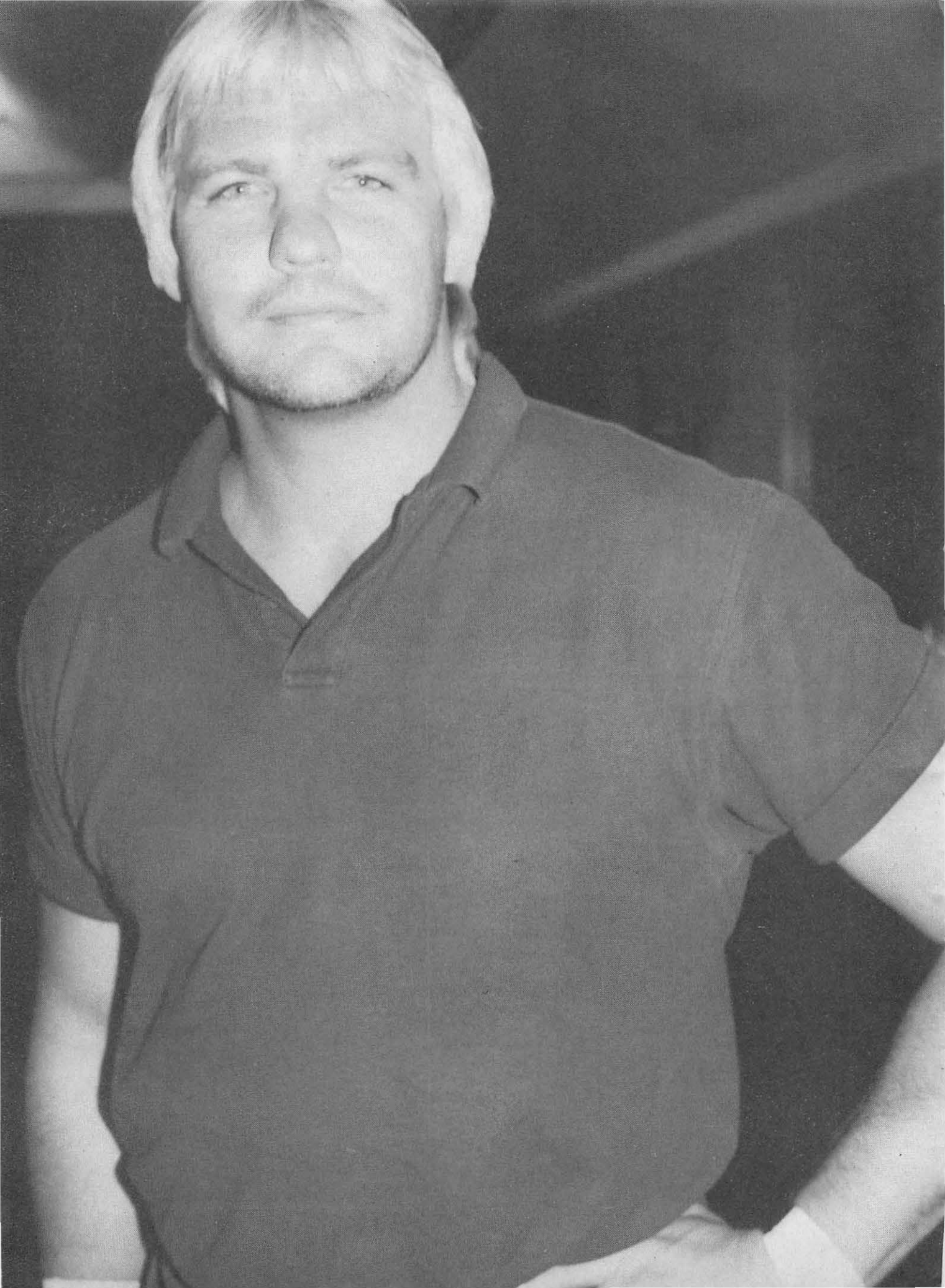


AN INJURY FOR ALL SEASONS

BARRY WINDHAM

BY STEVE MUELLER

"Oh, what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive" is a cliched platitude that seemingly has no place in the double-speak world of professional wrestling—a world in which nothing is ever what it appears to be at first look.

At least that has become the perception of most hardcore fans. That feeling was recently reinforced by a pathetic series of silly events orchestrated by the WCW booking braintrust as they tried to explain away Barry Windham's serious wrist injury.

"Dusty Rhodes, the WCW chief booker, simply has no respect for the intelligence of the fans," says long time ring physician Dr. Gary Dunn. "Consequently, hardcore smart fans simply view Rhodes feeble attempts at creative booking as the rumblings of a man with serious perception problems."

In this case, Windham's wrist injury, the dopey booking was the result of what seems to be a recurring nightmare of not only Dusty Rhodes, but of all American wrestling promotions with heavy TV schedules. These promotions are apparently haunted by the possibility that fans will discover that television wrestling programs, except for Pay-Per-View extravaganzas and occasional live presentations, are video taped weeks in advance of showing.

This unreasonable fear is apparently so overwhelming that wrestling bookers will just about try anything to preserve the illusion that televised programs are, if not live, at least of only a few days vintage.

Consequently, occurrences such as title changes and injuries are not acknowledged as having happened until the event appears on television. This policy creates a kind of Twilight Zone limbo world where defeated champions continue to wear championship belts and where injured wrestlers are advertised on shows when there is no chance that the advertised wrestler will be healthy enough to enter the ring.

Barry Windham's recent wrist injury was an excellent example of this bizarre and insulting practice. In actuality, Windham was injured at the end of the TV tapings while applying a bulldog headlock. WCW, however, would not acknowledge the injury because then they would have to scrap three weeks worth of Windham TV matches. And, of course, since Windham was already advertised as appearing on numerous house shows over that period, if his injury were revealed, the advertising would have to be changed at great expense.

And so over the next three weeks, Barry Windham appeared uninjured on TV screens across America, but at house shows he was, of course, a no-show.

When the "Halloween Havoc" live Pay-Per-View Spectacle rolled around, the injured Windham was still advertised as appearing in the "Chamber of Horrors" match. But how could WCW explain Windham's wrist injury? Enter the dread staged sneak attack.

Before the show officially began, WCW announcers, stationed in the parking lot outside the arena, greeted arriving wrestlers and asked

◀ *This Sweetwater, Texas native is a formidable contender.*

them for comments and opinions about the night's upcoming bouts.

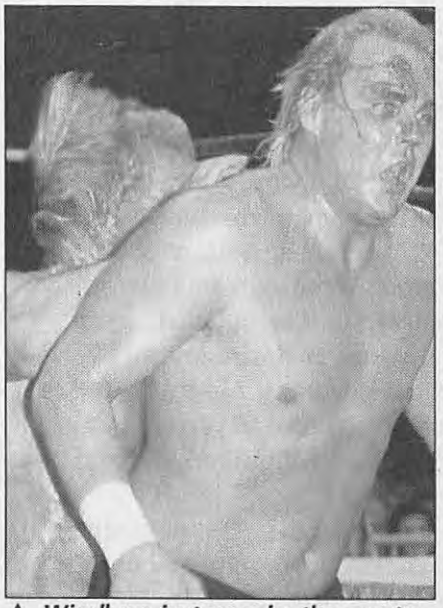
When Barry Windham and Dustin Rhodes drove up in a red sports car, they seemed the personification of wrestling health and well being. And as they answered questions cheerfully, insiders wondered if the reports about the seriousness of Windham's injury were false. Then a sudden sneak attack by the Enforcers, Arn Anderson and Larry Zbyszko, and Windham's wrist was allegedly mangled by a slamming car door.

Of course, as a result of this "injury", Windham was rushed to the hospital. And, naturally, there was no way he would be able to compete in the Chamber of Horror's match. WCW's television world had at last caught up with the real world. There is no question if all this elaborate manipulation is ethical or not. It is almost certainly unethical, even though some may claim that the practice of not acknowledging events until they appear on television is just a form of "artistic license". After all, this practice doesn't hurt anyone. Or does it?

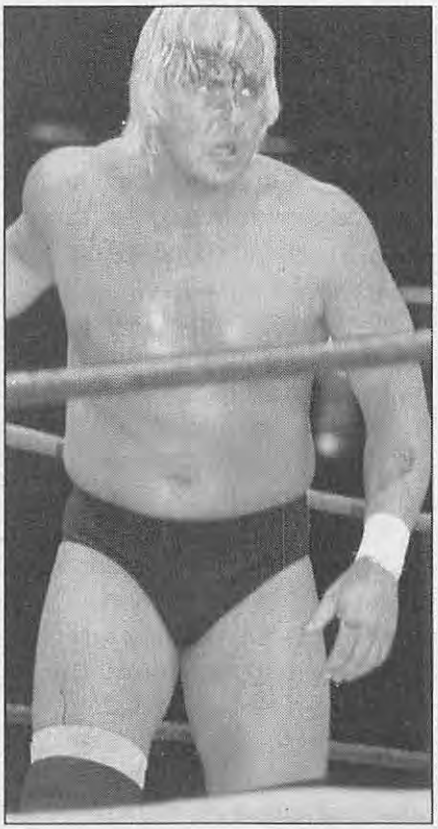
In actuality, the practice is stupid and misconceived. Most fans, even casual ones, know that the matches shown on television are taped well in advance of broadcast. And this practice is hurtful. Any fan who has plucked down his hard earned money for a ticket to a card on which his favorite wrestler, say Barry Windham for instance, is scheduled falsely is a victim of this underhanded practice.

But perhaps the best argument against this "television limbo world" practice is a bit more esoteric. To properly enjoy professional wrestling, a certain "suspension of disbelief" is required by wrestling fans. This suspension becomes increasingly difficult to achieve when a promotion is obviously playing fast and loose with the truth by advertising wrestlers on cards when there is no chance that the wrestler will appear for the show.

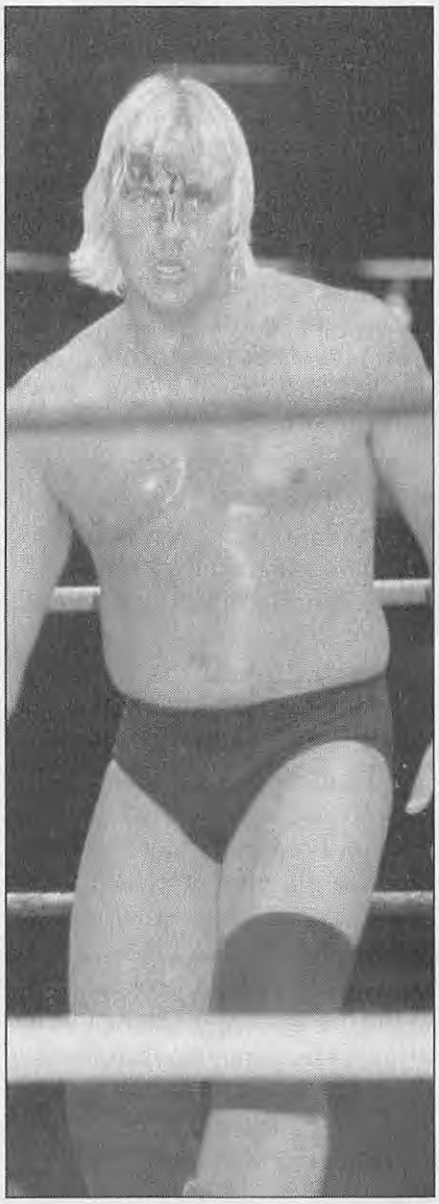
The solution to this problem is actually quite simple. Since most fans know all about the taping procedures of wrestling promotions—that matches are in the "can"two or three weeks before they are shown on television—there really is no point in continuing this stupid practice. In fact, all wrestling promotions have to do is realize that the real world will not end when their television limbo worlds do. ❑



▲ *Windham just may be the one to grab Luger's gold.*



▲ *Barry just wants the chance to prove himself.*



▶ *The injured Barry Windham never intended to fool fans.*

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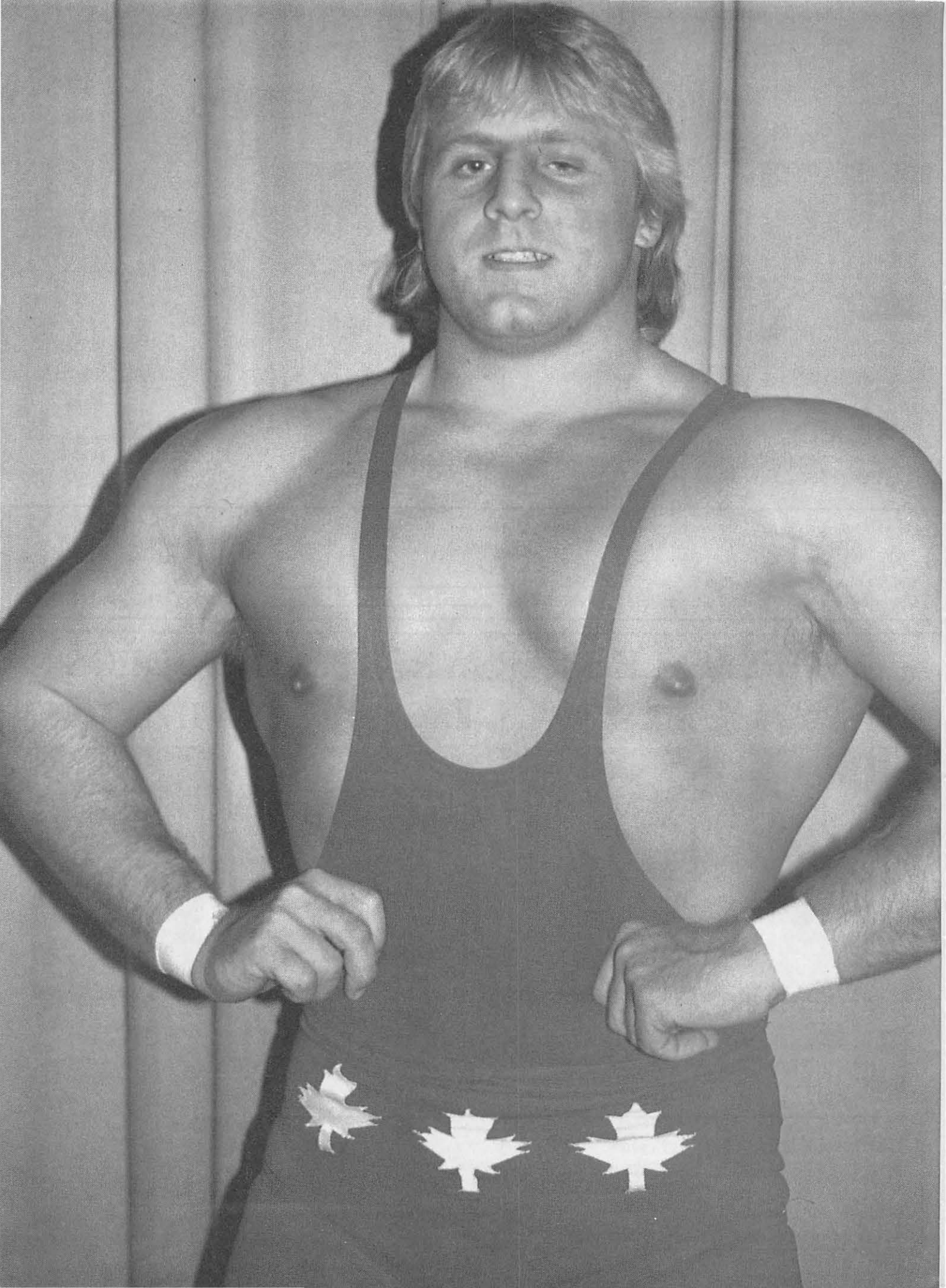


OWEN HART
REACHING FOR THE STARS

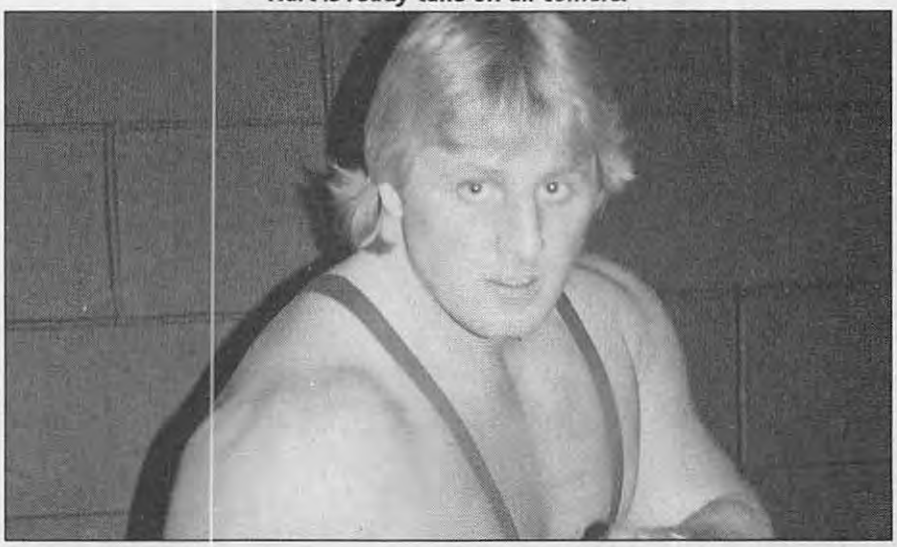
BY HOWARD FEINTUCH

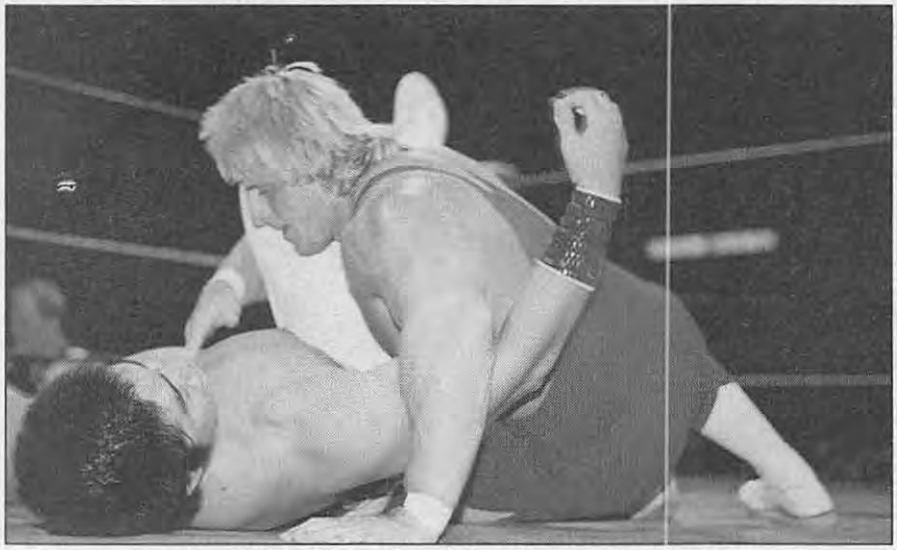
Owen Hart is one of a handful of well known, successful and talented wrestlers in North America who has never been a superstar of either the WWF or WCW. For the past several years fans have eagerly awaited the day they would get to see this talented performer wrestle in the big time. Sure, he appeared in the WWF as The Blue Blazer a few years back, but that ridiculous gimmick hardly did justice to this young man's tremendous talent. When he left the WWF back then, he disappeared from the American wrestling scene and up until now, fans have had to be satisfied with only hearing about Owen's exploits through the wrestling media. Well, there's good news now. Owen Hart has recently resurfaced in the WWF and he looks greater than ever. Now that we know he can wrestle, the only question that remains is whether or not he will stay on the scene long enough establish himself as a superstar.

Owen Hart hails from Canada's first family of wrestling. His father Stu, a former wrestler himself, is a legend in Canada. During the late 1980's, Stu Hart ran one of the world's most competitive regional promotions. He called this group Stampede and based it out of Calgary. The action in Stampede was said to be incredible and the battles resembled the great matches of the 70's. Stampede was also widely known as a breeding ground for future superstars. Many of today's greats got their starts in wrestling thanks to Stu Hart, but perhaps the groups's most popular attraction was none other than one of Stu's sons, Owen. Owen was considered the second most famous Hart right behind his older brother Bret, who was a mainstay attraction in the World Wrestling Federation. In fact, many wrestling experts were so impressed with the younger Hart that they thought he was more talented than his more famous sibling. These same experts also felt that Owen had the ability to become a major star in American wrestling rings.

When Owen finally did make his arrival on the U.S. scene in the WWF, it wasn't with a bang, the way most of his dedicated fans expected. Instead, it was with a small and weak pop. You see, Vince McMahon had Owen dress up in an intergalactic costume and dubbed him The Blue Blazer. Keen observers thought they recognized the face of Owen Hart behind the Blue Blazer mask and their suspicions were confirmed once they saw the Blue Blazer wrestle. Those acrobatic, high flying maneuvers could only have belonged to one wrestler, Owen Hart. The Blue Blazer was an exciting wrestler to watch because he was in constant motion in the ring, something you rarely see a WWF wrestler do. Wrestling insiders expected big things but alas, they never materialized. Perhaps it was

Hart is ready take on all comers.





Owen has spent a lot of time in Japanese rings.

Owen has a very impressive physique.

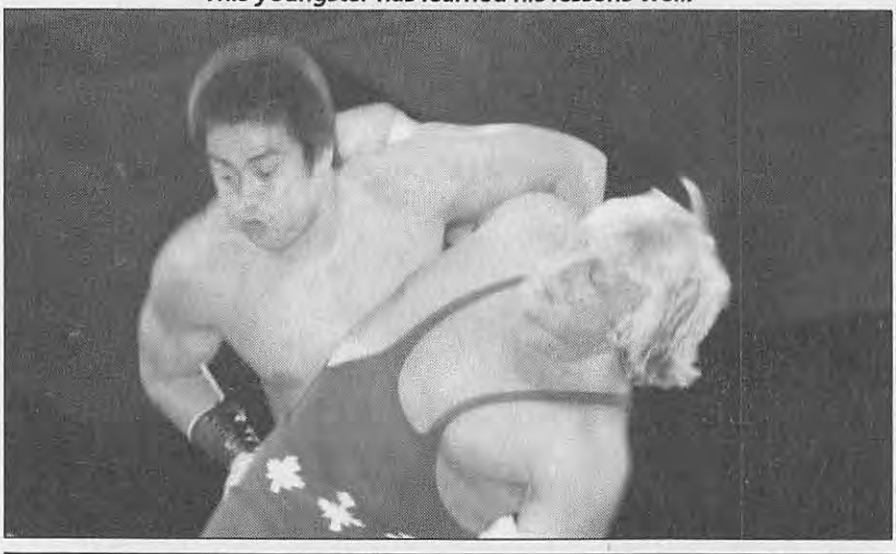
his size that the WWF brass didn't like, but for whatever reason the Blazer never received much of a promotional push in the WWF. Owen quickly decided it was time to move on and beat a hasty retreat.

In many cases a North American wrestler can become a huge success overseas but still feel a void because the fans on his own continent aren't very familiar with him. Perhaps Owen Hart was such a case because he decided to return to America to wrestle. At the WWF's November television taping a handful of newcomers made appearances and were given tryouts. Chris Walker from Global and Chris Chavis from SAPW both had matches on the taping and the two had been wrestling opening bouts at house shows in prior weeks. Another man, known as The Cajun Giant, was given a tryout as well. There was just one other newcomer to appear and he was none other than Owen Hart.

This time though, Owen wrestled under his real name. He formed a tag team with his brother-in-law Jim Neidhart, a former partner of his brother Bret, and the two called themselves The New Foundation. If the WWF decides to push two it should be interesting to see what they can do. It also should be interesting to see how Owen will fare in singles matches against dastardly foes like Ted DiBiase or Jake Roberts.

If, in fact, Owen Hart does decide to stay in the WWF, expect him to become a big star. Fans also know that the inevitable will have to occur and Owen will one day team with brother, Bret. Both Hart brothers are master mat technicians and will certainly add new luster to the WWF tag team scene, but until the historic pairing of quite possibly the two most gifted brothers in all of pro wrestling occurs, look out for the combo of Owen Hart and Jim Neidhart. Many have predicted that this new Hart Foundation will be wearing gold in a very short period of time. One thing is for certain, Owen Hart's time for superstardom has arrived! ❑

This youngster has learned his lessons well.



OWEN HART
REACHING FOR THE STARS

For months after Owen Hart had left the WWF, rumors frequently surfaced about an impending return to the WWF or WCW. Owen was supposed to go to WCW and challenge Ric Flair, some sources said. Others claimed he would come back to the WWF and form a team with brother Bret. Suffice it to say that none of these rumors ever materialized and Owen went back to his native Canada to wrestle. When Stampede ceased promoting regularly in 1989, Owen was forced to find wrestling work elsewhere if he wanted to keep busy. With his high flying, athletic style of wrestling, he was a natural for the foreign rings, particularly those in Japan.

While in Japan, Owen established himself as one of the most talented Westerners that had ever appeared. The Japanese fans liked his high work rate and fast paced wrestling style. Owen was also known to frequent Mexico as well. The fans there also responded well to his efforts.

Owen Hart is on the road to glory!

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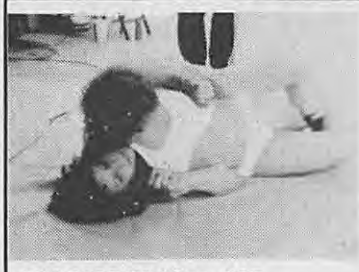
GM 2115 50 Mins. $65 5 Matches

A bitter dual between two young guests: CONNY (19) comes from Nuremberg and has to absorb a lot of punishment from CARMEN (22) who traveled from the German Dem. Republic as our very first guest after the falling–down of the iron–curtain. A superb match! LISSY in her mid–forties challenges daughter MONIKA and gives her a match to remember. Older sister HANNI and her younger CAROLA battle for the victory but a solid draw ends the wild tussle. The Two "seniors" LISSY and HANNI (45/36) prove that they can at least be as aggressive as their younger competitors. Their match is hard fought and full of fantastic and rough action. Finally, KARIN accepts the challenge of a guest from Frankfurt SUSI. The experienced blonde uses very effective tactics and squeezes her short–haired rival with powerful leg–scissors but falls victim to a suddenly executed controlling hold. Two beautiful young amazons!

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING



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GM 2129 45 Mins. $65 3 Matches

Another three lovely teenagers: ALEXANDRA–IRA–VANESSA in a small tournament with great matches of a high standard. They really fight like wild–cats and at the end Italian beauty Vanessa comes out as winner nevertheless she has to absorb a very painfully injured knee. All matches are barefoot.

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HANNI, a 32 year old novice is in for a pretty rough time but SHANAN has to use all of her experience to beat the strong lady / PETSI:SILKE too much for the game teenager. Petsi gives her a lesson and finishes her completely.

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THE LEGION OF DOOM

AGING WARRIORS OF THE ROAD

BY STEVE MUELLER

Remember the Road Warriors? You know, the ferocious tag team that during the early eighties revolutionized not only tag team wrestling, but the entire sport. The team that made fans, for the first time on widescale basis, cheer the bad guys.

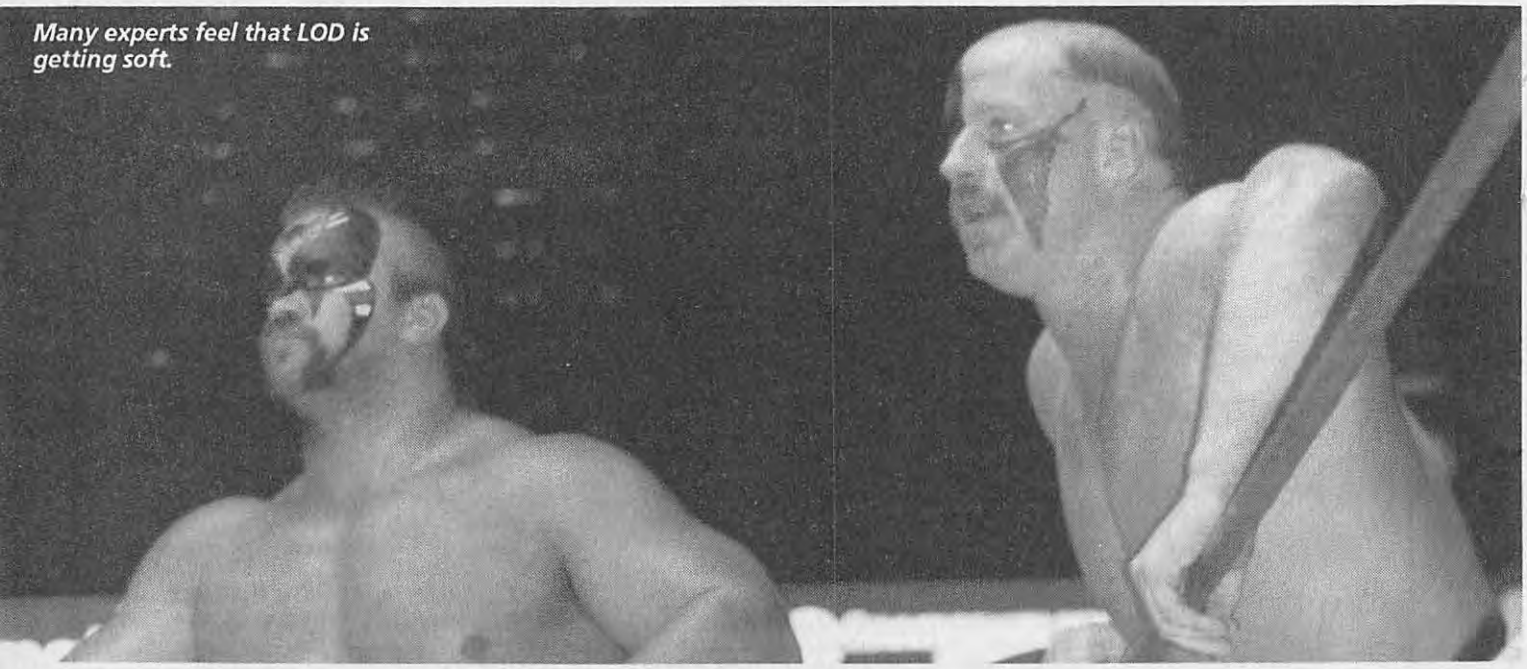
Led by Precious Paul Ellering, their manager, financial advisor, and spiritual consultant, this weird team did not just win matches, they destroyed the opposition. They dominated their opponents in the same savage way that the movie world's ROAD WARRIOR dominated the bizarre world of nuclear devastation at world's end. And their domination was so impressive, so overwhelming, fans began cheering for them.

Wrestling analysts say that the tremendous energy rush generated by the Warriors as they ran to the ring, with the blaring chords of Black Sabbath's "Iron Man" echoing around them, was what turned on the crowd. Others claim it was the Warriors' sheer ferocity, combined with their agility, amazing for such big men, that made the arena crowds stand and roar.

Animal began wrestling as the Road Warrior late in 1982. Paul Ellering teamed him with Hawk in June, 1983. The Road Warriors were an immediate sensation. They won Georgia's National Tag Team Championship. Initially, the Road Warriors just wore leather and carried chains. Their unforgettable image was completed when they added face paint and partially shaved heads.

The Road Warriors went on to win championships wherever they wrestled. They were the NWA World Champions and they were the AWA World Champions. When they travelled to Japan, they became the most respected foreign tag team ever to appear there. In fact, the Road Warriors were easily wrestling's greatest tag team gate attraction. Indeed, the Warriors were on top of the wrestling world when they entered the WWF in 1990. It seemed a certainty that they would quickly become the promotion's number two gate attraction—right behind the allegedly immortal Hulk Hogan. But that wasn't to be. Almost as soon as Animal and Hawk entered the WWF, it all began to change.

It is said that Vince McMahon did not want the Warriors to use the name "Road Warriors" because he feared fans might, for reasons still not clear, confuse them with the Ultimate Warrior, then a major WWF attraction. The Warriors had always been called "The Road Warriors, the Legion of Doom". Now they became simply the Legion of Doom. Gone as well, for reasons also not clear,

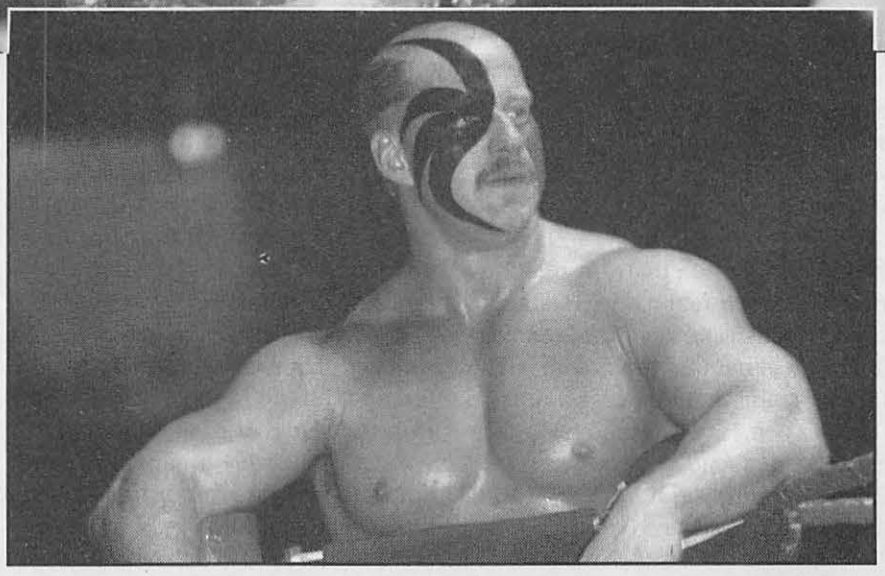


Many experts feel that LOD is getting soft.

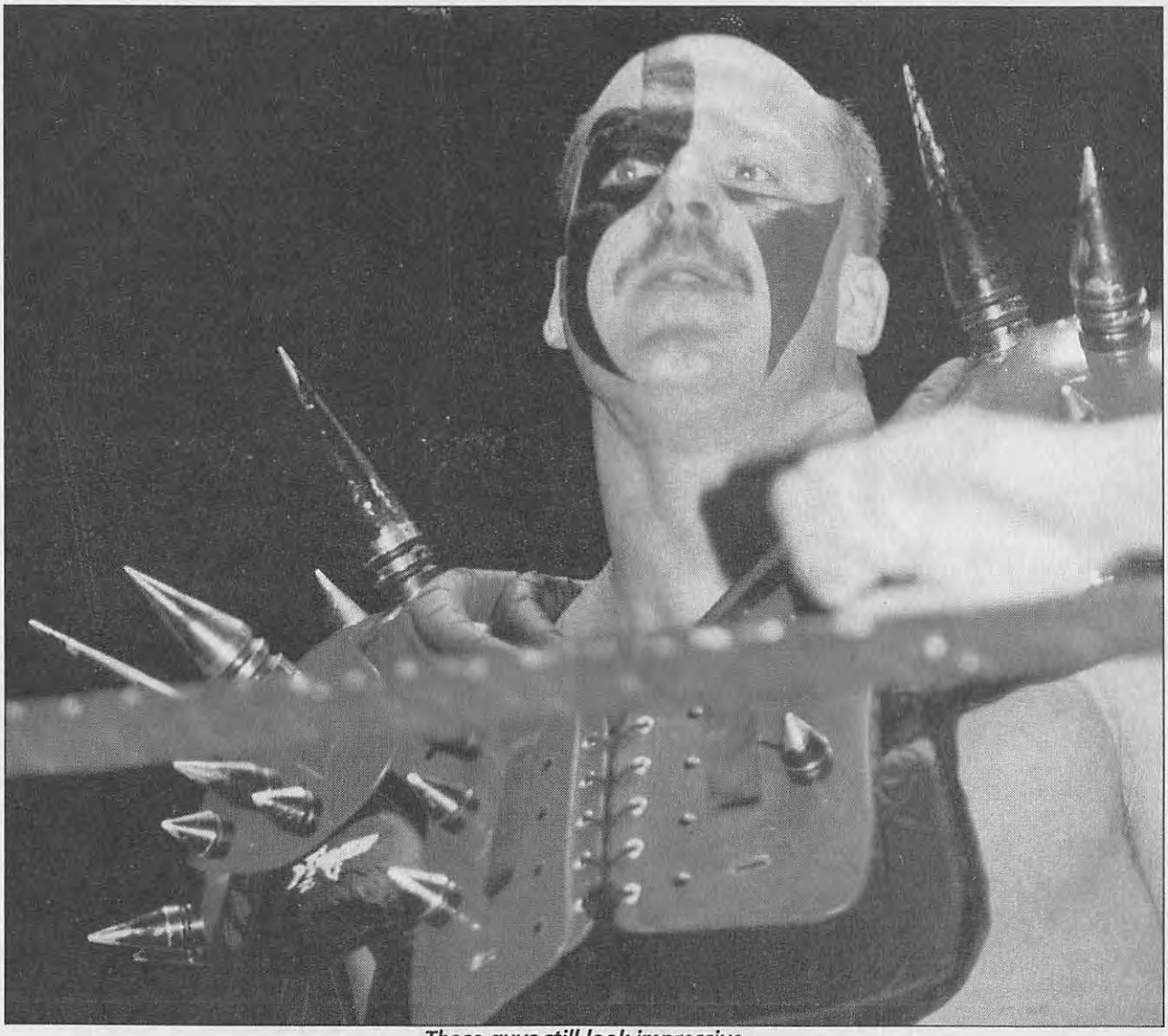
▲ *The Legion of Doom is quite used to wearing gold. (photo by Schultz)*

was Precious Paul Ellering. That was, as they say, the infamous second strike.

The third strike came almost immediately. Vince McMahon changed the Legion of Doom's entrance music. "Iron Man" was changed to Hawk screaming "What a Rush!". Somehow it all seemed wrong. Somehow the



▶ *How much longer can these Warriors last?*



These guys still look impressive.

WWFized Legion of Doom did not seem as devastating or as intimidating as the Road Warriors. Oh, they were still an exciting tag team, but they no longer seemed to be the greatest tag team of all time.

Even after they won the WWF tag team championship from the Nasty Boys at Wrestlemania VII, the Legion of Doom still seemed to be missing something. Perhaps what they were missing was something more than Paul Ellering, more than "Iron Man", more than their real name. Indeed, some experts claim that the Legion Of Doom is missing the emotional fire that made them fierce warriors. These experts say that Animal and Hawk were already on the way down when they entered the WWF. Simply, they just have been around for too long.

Perhaps Animal and Hawk have softened. The once invulnerable duo cannot operate at the high energy level that was their trademark when they first became a team. Additionally, some critics claim the tough WWF road schedule has gotten the best of the Legion of Doom. These critics point to the serious injuries suffered by both Animal and Hawk earlier this year as proof that the once invulnerable duo has joined the ranks of mortal men.

Occasionally, rumors have surfaced that Animal and Hawk are fed up with life in the WWF and plan to leave that promotion and wrestle exclusively in Japan. At other times, these same rumor mongers swear that Paul Ellering is about to come out of retirement and once again manage the Legion of Doom.

And while all these rumors remain just that—unfounded rumors—the future of the team that was once the most spectacular duo in the mat sport seems clouded at best. In the cartoon character world of the WWF, the Legion of Doom just does not seem that weird anymore. After all, this is the wrestling promotion that has featured an allegedly "immortal" world champion, an Undertaker with supposed supernatural powers, and a sinister "Snakeman", seemingly on a first name basis with all of hell's important demons. Somehow against that backdrop, the Legion of Doom just doesn't seem that threatening anymore. ❑

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THE PATRIOT

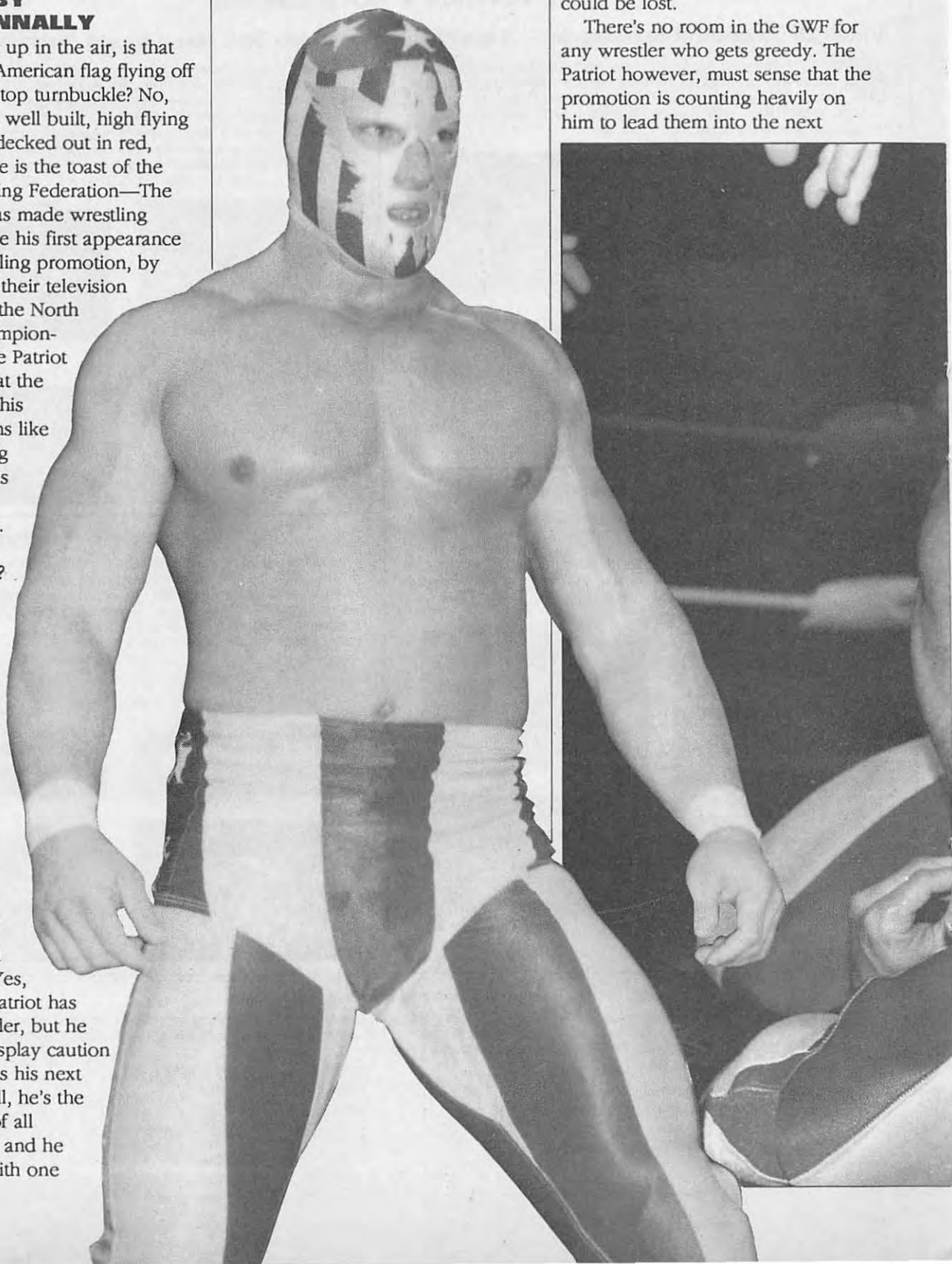
WRESTLING FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE

BY DON LAIBLE
PHOTOS BY
DAVE CONNALLY

Look up in the air, is that an American flag flying off the top turnbuckle? No, that well built, high flying masked man decked out in red, white and blue is the toast of the Global Wrestling Federation—The Patriot. He has made wrestling headlines since his first appearance with the fledgling promotion, by winning both their television title and later the North American championship. Now The Patriot finds himself at the crossroads of his career. It seems like there's nothing left to keep his motivational juices flowing. What will his next move be?

Perhaps The Patriot should concentrate his energies in tag competition, and try to break up The Cartel's alliance or maybe he should issue challenges to champions of other national promotions. Yes, the popular Patriot has much to ponder, but he should still display caution until he makes his next move. After all, he's the prime target of all heavyweights and he knows that with one slip up, all that he's worked for could be lost.

There's no room in the GWF for any wrestler who gets greedy. The Patriot however, must sense that the promotion is counting heavily on him to lead them into the next



decade. In many respects he has been put in the same position as Hulk Hogan in 1984 when the Californian was chosen to steer the World Wrestling Federation to international prominence. Since The Patriot wears the colors of the American flag, this adds increased pressures to live and work a clean, respectable lifestyle.

All seems to going well now for The Patriot. He works out four times a week in gyms across the country to build up his muscles and accepts non-title matches from his North American championship commitments. His in-ring confidence has never been greater. In short, The Patriot firmly believes he can overpower anyone on the GWF roster. He plays by the rules and has garnered a great fan following in his short time in the ring.

The Patriot is currently sending out feelers to see if either Hulk Hogan or Lex Luger will face off against him, however, at this time, it doesn't seem likely that these meetings will ever materialize. After all, the politicos of wrestling do all within their powers to protect their own company champions.

The Patriot has a punishing booking schedule. He is riding the wave of success solo and has no manager or tag team partner and may sometimes get lonely, but so far has made all the right decisions to further his career. After all, back in June of 1991, he won the GWF television title. He won the North American strap two months later in a tournament. Unfortunately, there is a GWF law that states no wrestler can hold two belts at the same time. The

The champ has full control over Al Perez.

The Patriot raises the North American belt.

Patriot reluctantly decided to part with the Television title, but all those that meet up with him in the ring, know he won both titles fairly and squarely and is quite formidable in his own right. Still, with the highs of being champion comes little time to heal wounds and mentally escape from the daily travel grind.

There's nothing flashy about The Patriot's ring presence. He prefers to go head to head with his opponents, either from on the canvas or high above from the top rope. The Patriot will always keep a foe guessing as to what his next move will be and this element of surprise has always worked very well in his favor. The Patriot usually ends his matches with a missile-like move executed off the top rope right into his opponent's chest. This devastating maneuver has yet to fail him.

Al Perez, "Sweet" Stan Lane and Axis the Demolisher are The Patriot's toughest contenders so far, but he also must watch out for Chris and Mark Youngblood and members of The Cartel who all may collectively work on stripping his self respect as well as the belt from him. After all, the Youngbloods have not had much success in getting a crack at the GWF tag team belts and have expressed interest in going solo and vying for either the North American or TV title.

"Sweet" Stan Lane is tough to handle when he is on his own, but add his manager, Jim Cornette and you've really got your hands full. Now, Lane is determined to put his vast wrestling skills, along with his knowledge of martial arts to good use. Of course, Cornette always keeps his trusty tennis racket handy for additional insurance.

Axis the Demolisher (formerly Ax of WWF fame) has seen and done it all during his illustrious career. He has held gold in the WWF and is out to prove that he's as bad as ever. After witnessing his GWF sanctioned matches against Terry Gordy, you can see that this behemoth is still in rare form!

Makhan Singh, Rip Rogers and Scotty Anthony currently comprise The Cartel and they all want the North American belt. It is common knowledge that these three baddies would stop at nothing to reach their goal, so The Patriot would do well to watch out for all three of them, either individually or collectively.

The Patriot came to the GWF just when the sport needed a fresh, new superstar and so far he has yet to disappoint. Who really cares just who is behind the hood he wears, his wrestling skills can certainly keep even the most hard boiled fan on the edge of their seat. Hey Patriot, just keep doing what you do best—win, win, win!!! ❑

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VIDEO VIEWS PRESENTS

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Spice shows off her incredible strength by lifting very heavy in the gym before taking on, and easily beating, her much larger male foe. You have seen Spice on TV also, now you can see her on this action-packed video. Video runs 1½ hours for $70.

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Raye Hollitt — Video 18

Yes, you have been watching Raye fight off all competition on a national TV show recently. Here she toys with her male foe, winning fall after fall with her powerful body. One other match included. Video runs 45 minutes for $55.

Unbeatable Arm-Wrestler Cheryl — Video 20

For a change of pace, and to please the arm wrestling fanatics, here is a video which CLEARLY demonstrates just how invincible some women are in the womanly art of arm-wrestling. At a well proportioned 5'8", 180 pounds, with 16" biceps and 26" thighs, Cheryl not only dominates her male foe in arm-wrestling, but on the mat as well. One other arm-wrestling match/fight included. Video runs 2 hours for $70.

Arm-Wrestler/Wrestler Denise — Video 22

This video showcases the enormous physical talents of Denise, who partakes in defeating her larger male opponents in arm-wrestling and on the mat. In the mixed wrestling, the muscles in her body bulge out, especially in her back, strong thighs and muscular biceps, and she shows just clear as day, how superior a strong muscular woman is in combat with a larger male. Video runs 2 hours for $70.

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TERRY GORDY

BY HOWARD FEINTUCH
PHOTOS BY
DAVE CONNALLY

While it's true that some time has passed since Terry Gordy has graced the rings of any major U.S. promotion, he's still quite a force to be reckoned with, even if it is overseas the bulk of the time. Wrestling enthusiasts still fondly remember when Gordy was a mainstay attraction in the Mid-South. He wrestled with a fierceness and brutality that just isn't seen any more, and was quite content. Gordy figured he would spend the rest of day wrestling on good old American soil but alas, he was soon proven wrong.

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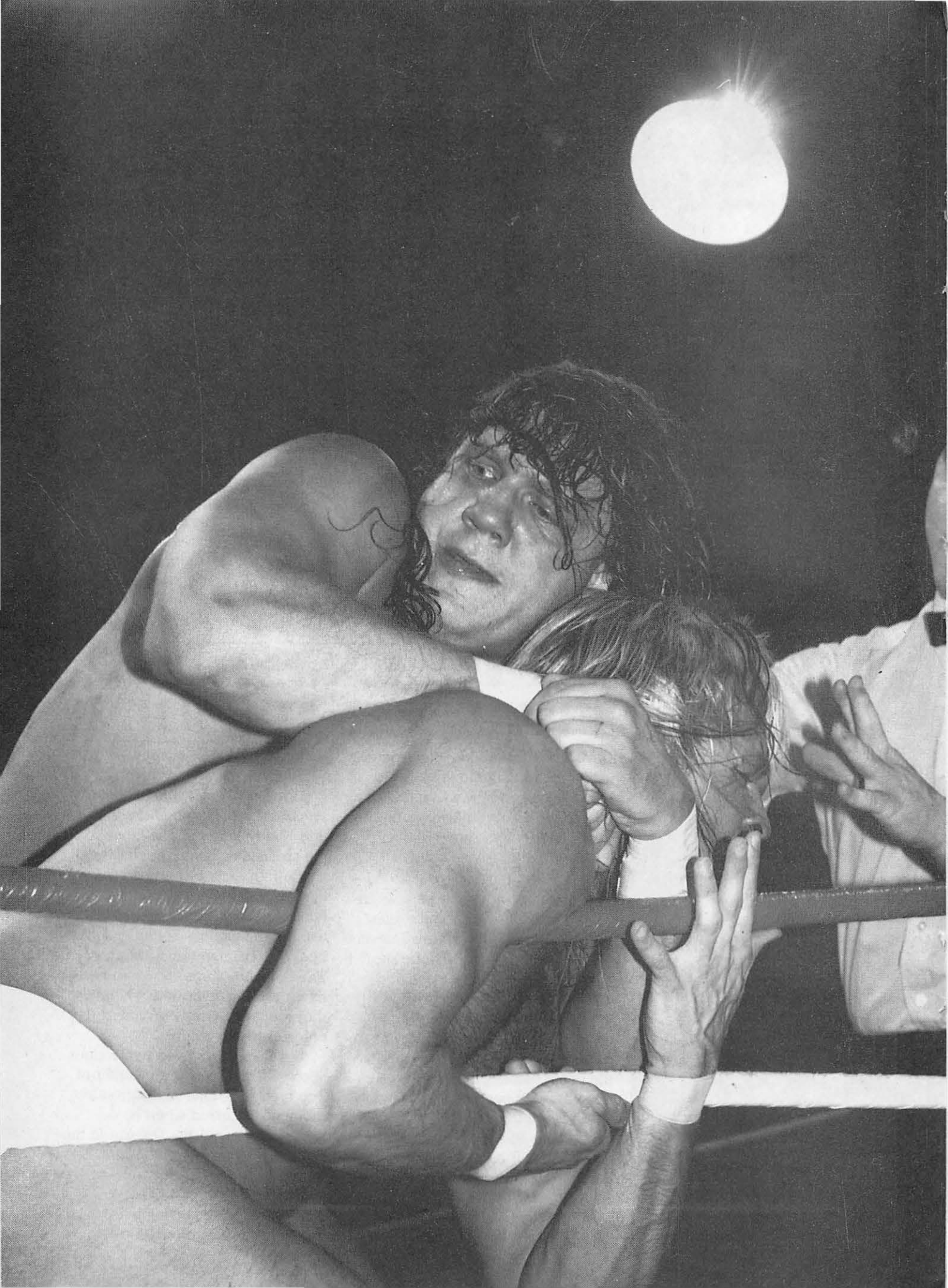
As wrestling in the United States developed into a money business in the major circuits, less emphasis was placed on good old fashioned wrestling brawls. Terry Gordy watched helplessly as things changed and quickly became disenchanted with what he saw. He knew he didn't want some executive in a suit and tie who had never wrestled, telling him what he should do, especially inside the squared circle. It seemed to him that those involved in wrestling were no longer interested in brawling out their differences. Gordy longed for the fierce battles of yesteryear. He knew it was time for a big change and headed to Japan. It was in The Land of the Rising Sun where Gordy found the stiff competition he so desperately craved.

A popular rumor about Terry Gordy is that he wrestled his first professional match when he was just fourteen years of age. As the famous tale goes, he did not use his correct age to get his license and thus was the youngest ever professional grappler. Age didn't seem to matter to this youngster though, whenever he faced opponents bigger and older than him, he usually walked away with the victory. No wrestler had more respect among his peers than Terry Gordy and he just kept better and better with age. It quickly became common knowledge that Gordy was as tough as nails in the ring and really made his opponents work if they wanted to win. When wrestlers are asked to name who their toughest opponents were, many put Terry Gordy at the top of their list without hesitation.

Gordy is famous for being an original member of The Fabulous Freebirds, along with Michael Hayes and Buddy Roberts. The Freebirds are credited as being the first team to use introductory music before matches. They were the most famous (and infamous) six man team of the eighties and may still hold that claim to fame even today. The Freebirds were known to raise havoc and cause trouble wherever they went and Gordy served as the enforcer of the group.

Terry Gordy enjoyed tremendous success while he was a member of The Freebirds. One of his proudest moments occurred when he defeated "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan in the final match of a championship tournament. He became the first ever UWF (Bill Watts' old UWF promotion, not to be confused with the Herb Abrams promotion)

◀ *Terry Gordy is back and he's badder than ever!*



champion in 1986. While in the UWF, Gordy frequently feuded with Steve Williams, a tough contender in his own right.

It was during their battles in the Mid-South that Terry Gordy and Steve Williams developed a mutual respect for each other. They both wondered what would happen if they ever formed a tag team. It would be several years before this would happen, and it would take place on a different continent, but the two knew they destinies were intertwined.

The last time wrestling fans saw Terry Gordy doing full-time extensive work for a U.S. wrestling promotion was way back in 1989 during the NWA's Bash tour. Gordy had always loved working in Japan and only wrestled for the NWA because they allowed him to take time off to tour in the Land of the Rising Sun. When NWA officials demanded that Terry Gordy stop touring Japan and spend all his time with them, Gordy promptly quit the promotion.

Although Gordy has been known to return to the U.S. on occasion to do independent work for publicized promotions, he spends most of his wrestling days working in Japan. Before the Legion of Doom joined the WWF, they also spent some time in Japanese rings and quickly became the top American tag team there. When they decided to return home, Japanese fans were left crying for a new and great American team. Terry Gordy and Steve Williams decided to team up and quickly filled the void the Legion of Doom left as the top American duo. It wasn't long before they were ranked as one of the top teams in all of Japan.

Terry Gordy is no fool. He knows there is good money to be made in Japan. He knows that if he wants big dollars here at home, he'd have to wrestle for the WWF. Gordy doesn't seem interested in trying to fit into the WWF's style of wrestling. It would have to take an extremely tempting offer such as reformation The Freebirds to entice Terry Gordy to leave Japan for good.

◀ *This veteran grappler has hurt many opponents.*

◀ *You can catch Terry on many independent cards.*

Terry Gordy is just one of a growing number of talented wrestlers that the fans in this country are losing. As time goes on we see less and less of the "Terry Gordy style" wrestlers in U.S. but perhaps one beacon of hope is Gordy's nephew, Richard Slinger. Slinger will carry on in his uncle's brawling style Lately, however, Slinger, also chooses to spend his wrestling time in Japan.

Gordy is a true wrestler in the classic form of two decades ago, before gimmicks and glitz became the major factors in American professional wrestling. Grappling greats like Terry Gordy are a dying breed here in this country and that is a true shame. ❑

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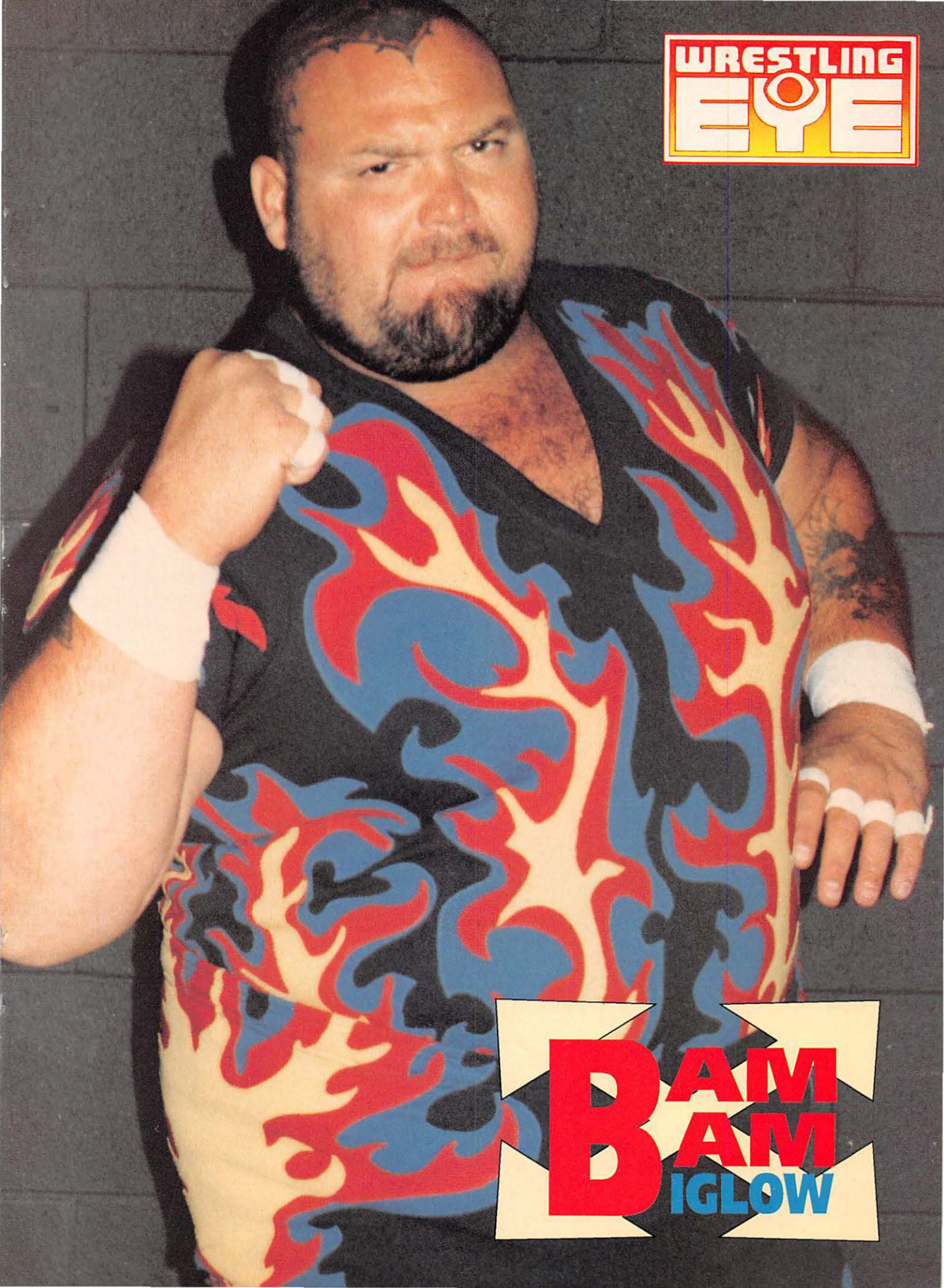
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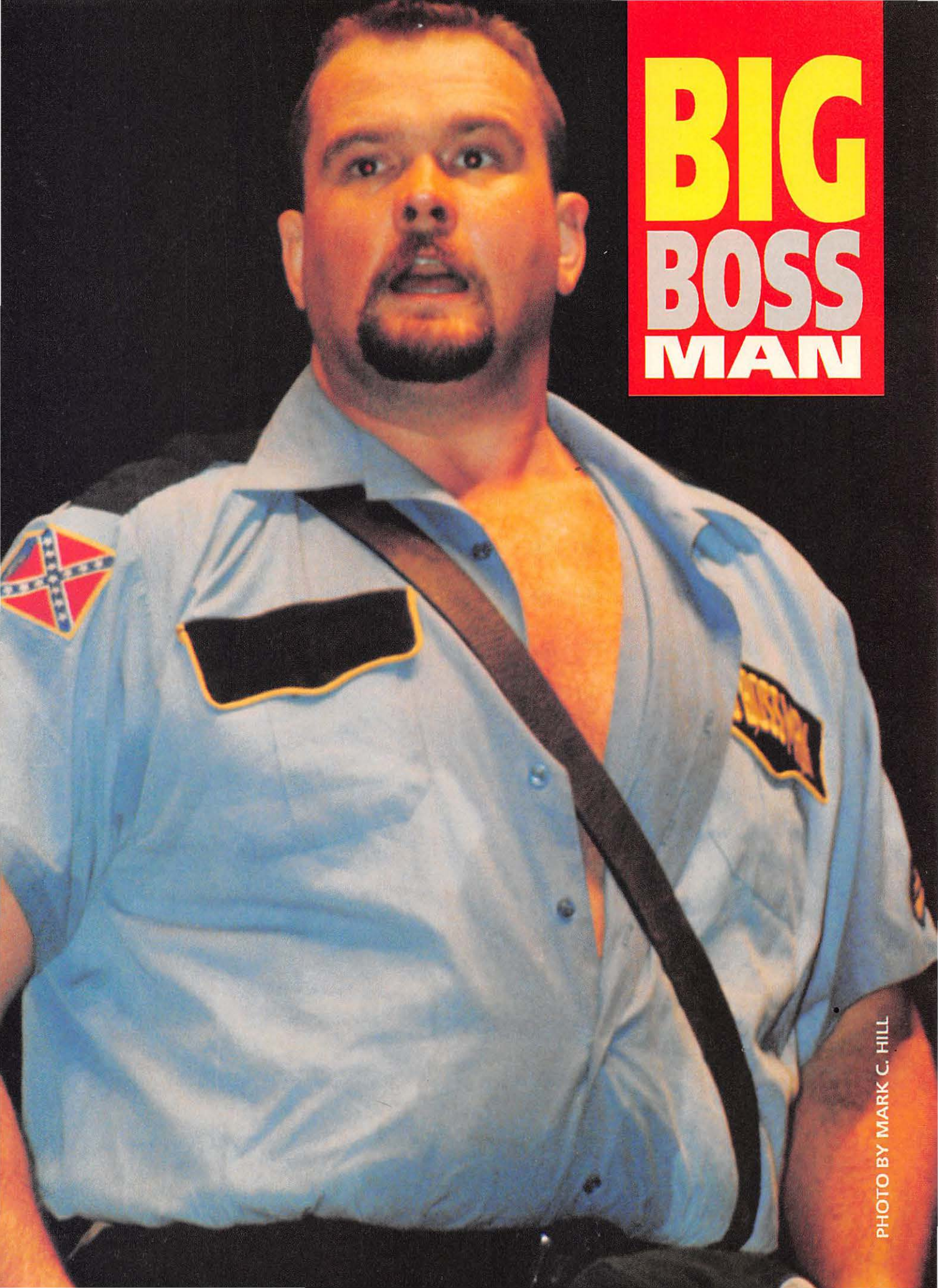
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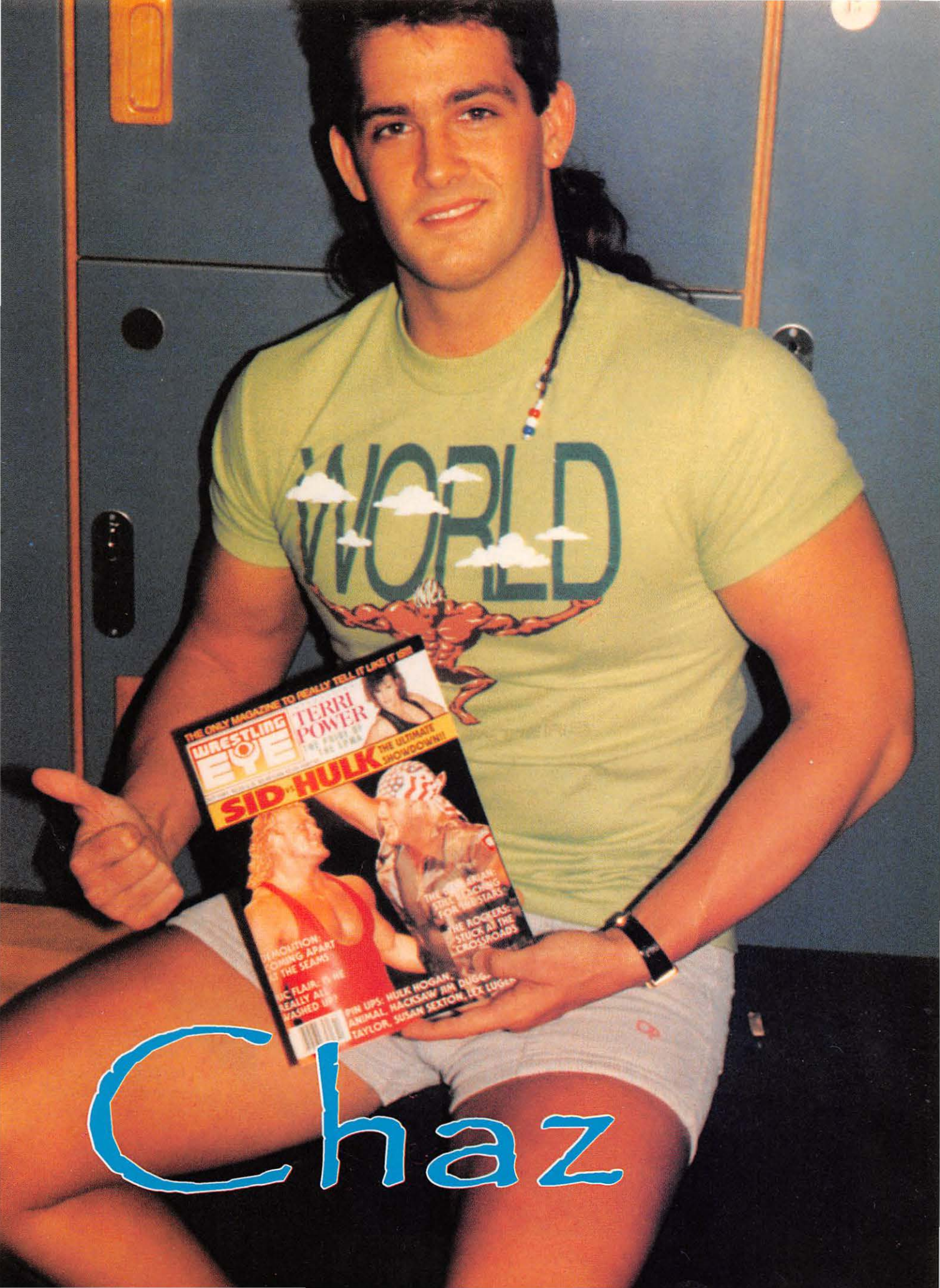
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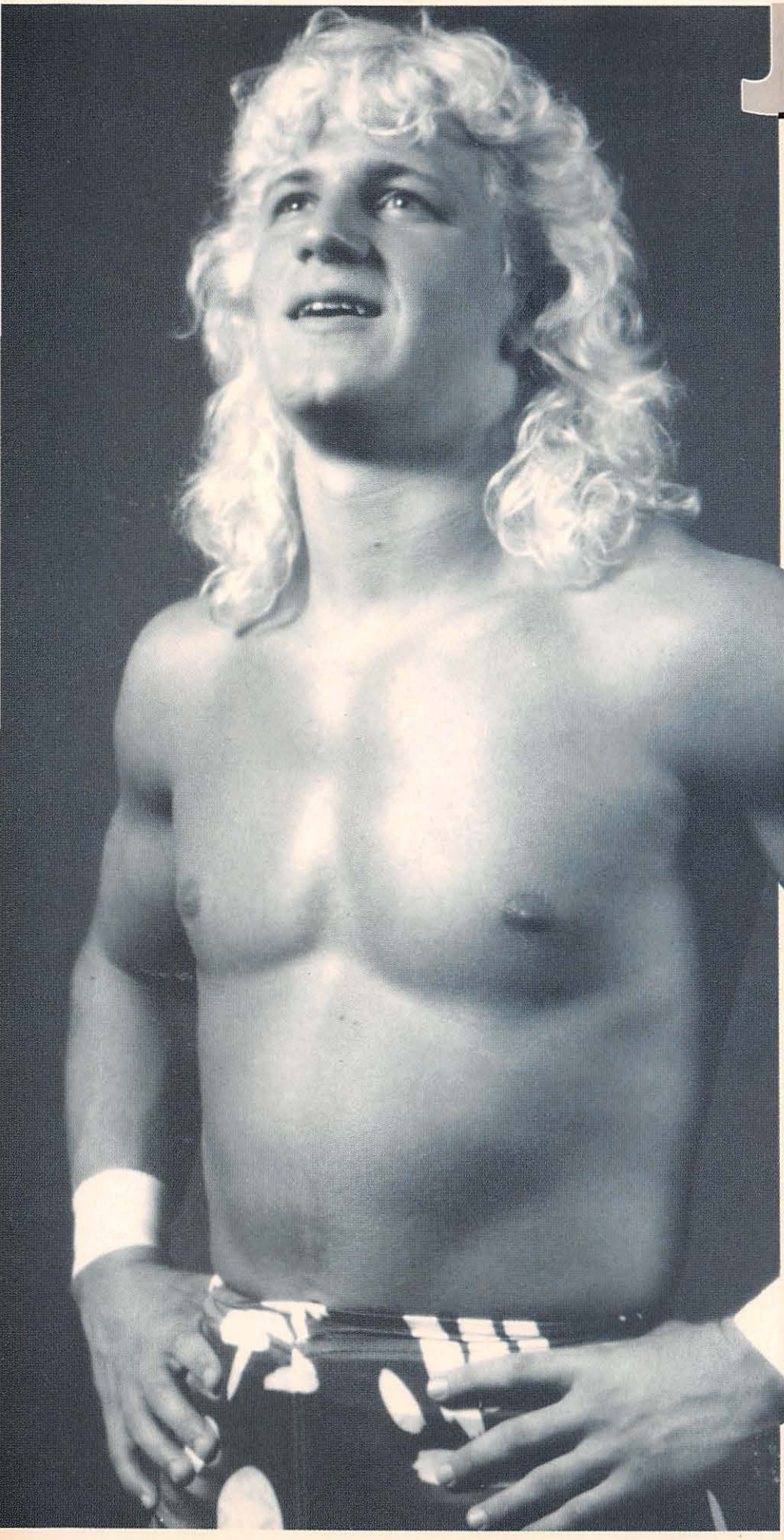


JEFF

BY DON LAIBLE
PHOTOS BY JERRY WILSON

Hey—wait a minute. Say it ain't so. Jeff Jarrett, the all-American boy next door do-gooder is now a rulebreaker! Someone must be misleading him with poor professional advice or worse—blackmail. No way, without warning, would Jeff just throw away all the public support and respect from the majority fans and wrestlers alike in the name of greed. Just what has gotten into him? Whatever the problems may be, there's a great many people who are hoping Jeff pulls himself together, before the emotional damage with his family and those who have stuck besides him since day one in wrestling becomes permanent. Just who could be influencing Jarrett? Now in his seventh year as a pro, Jarrett seems to have convinced himself that he deserves to be the next "King" of Memphis wrestling but there's one rather imposing roadblock in his way—Jerry Lawler. Why has Jarrett all of a sudden declared Lawler

JARRETT

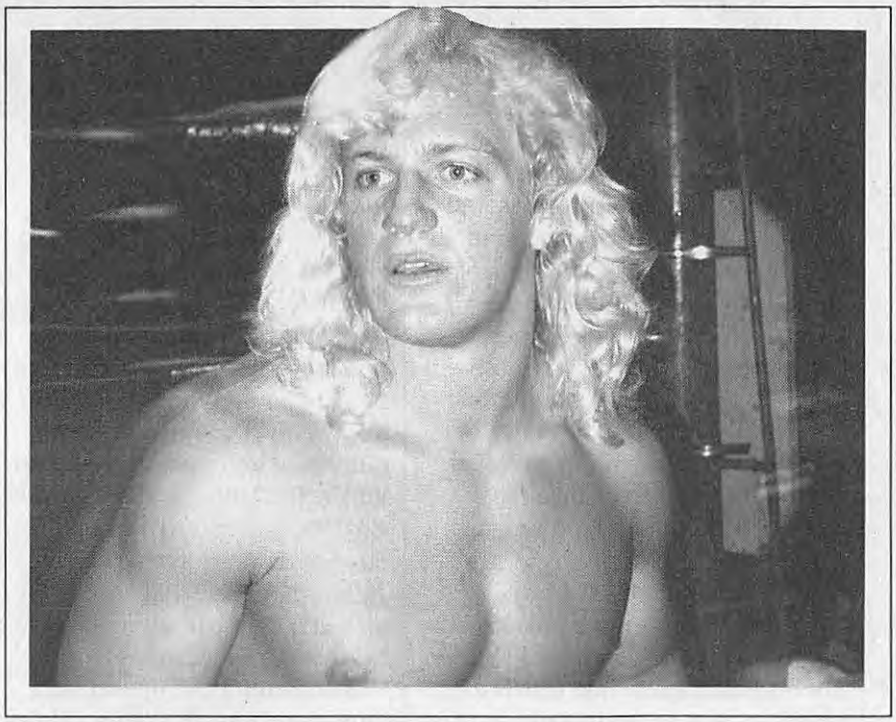
"DON'T CALL ME A HERO ANYMORE!"

wrestling's public enemy number one? After all,this is the man who has been like an older brother to him since 1985? Who's putting the crazy ideas in his mind that there's no room for anyone else in the United States Wrestling Association?

Whomever the culprit is, their "brainwashing" of Jeff Jarrett is working, sad to say. Now Jarrett is putting more time in the weight room, hoping this will lead to his bulking up so he will be better equipped to face heavier challengers on his quest for gold. You have to remember that before Jeff started on his rulebreaking ways, he was quite a distinguished athlete. For example, back in 1990, Jeff outsmarted the street fighting brawler, "Dirty" Dick Slater to win the promotion's Southern title (the USWA version of the InterContinental championship). It wasn't a memorable reign as twenty days later in Memphis "Hotstuff" Eddie Gilbert stripped him of that laurel. But don't dwell on this one well publicized negative part of Jeff's ring career. The highlights haven't been in short supply, more along the line of being in abundance.

With Cody Michael, Jeff Gaylord and most recently, Robert Fuller in his corner for tag challenges, the USWA tag team belts were claimed. Wait a minute, you may be saying. Are you talking about the same Robert Fuller who was Jarrett's arch enemy. Yep, it's the same guy alright, but lately, Jarrett has even thrown away that relationship. He is now embarked on a singles career and won't stop until he has the heavyweight belt strapped securely around his waist.

Questions continue to surface as to why Jeff has turned his back on all the people who have helped him in the past. After all, Jeff is no fool. He has to realize that if he keeps stepping on too many toes, he will have no friends to come to his aid when he might need help. Remem-



▲ *Fans are confused by Jarrett's change of heart.*

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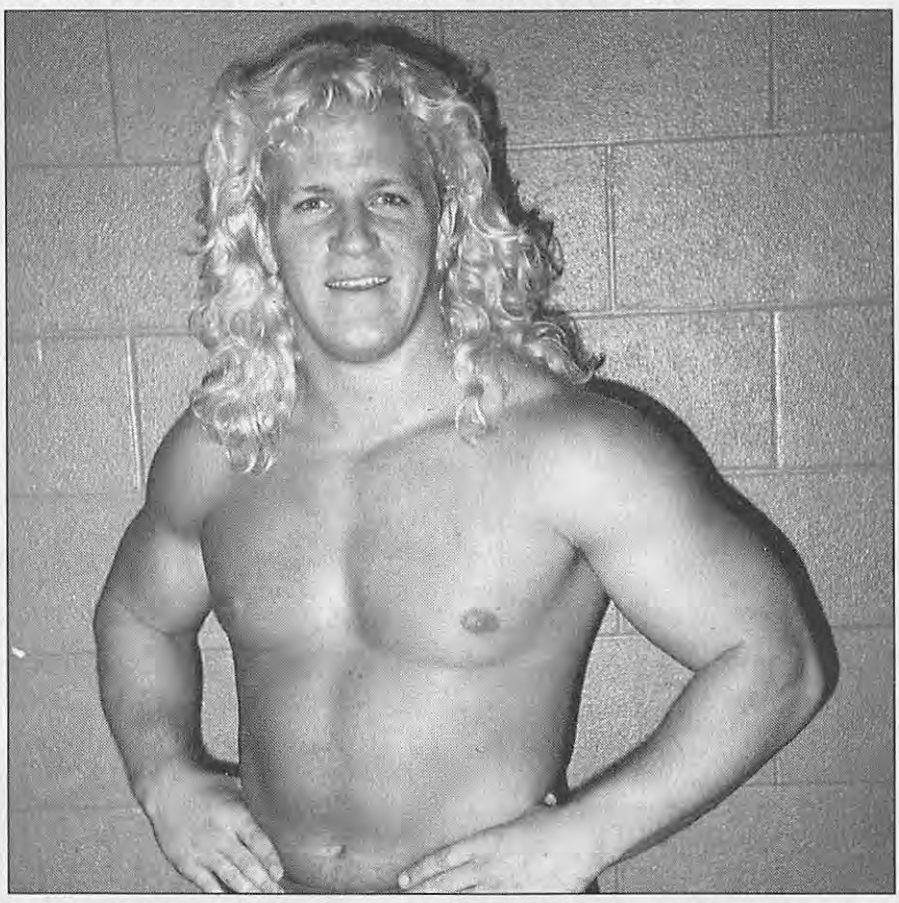
▼ *Jeff Jarrett now looks at wrestling from a different angle.*



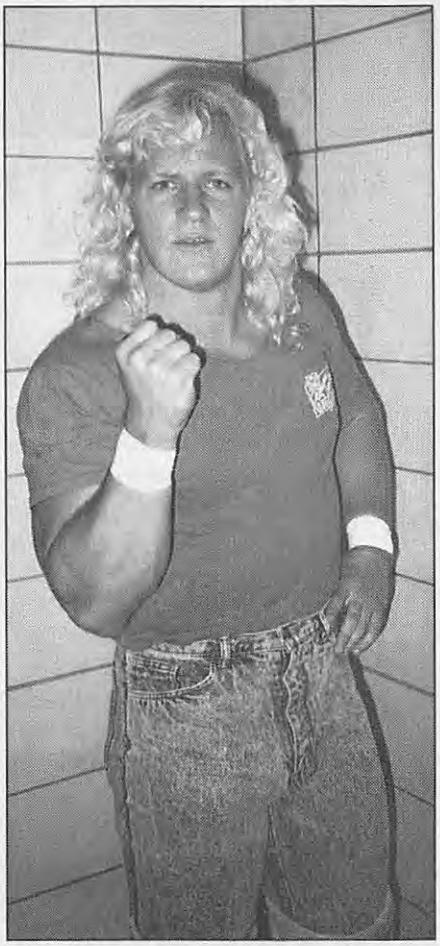
ber, no man is an island unto himself. If Jarrett doesn't watch his step, he may have to take plenty of beatings that he might have otherwise been able to avoid.

Perhaps Jeff Jarrett has forsaken his hero's ways because of the tremendous amount of pressure he's been under since he started in the wrestling game. In case you didn't know, Jarrett's dad is none other than the famous promoter, Jerry and his grandfather is wrestling legend, Eddie Marlin. Jeff was always expected to live up to the fine reputation that both his grandfather and father enjoyed. He had to always perform brilliantly and collect whatever title he was vying for. Maybe all the pressure and high expectations are what finally made Jeff Jarrett snap.

It's tough to admit but easy to spot in hindsight. Jeff is nothing but a spoiled brat who is now learning the meaning of the word, No. Perhaps Jeff was expecting special treatment from the championship committee because of his father's connection with the USWA. Well, this is just not the case and Jeff would do well to realize that it's not too late to offer apologies and smooth over chaos he created in Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana. "A bad reputation is one of the toughest things to lose," Robert Fuller mused. "I haven't figured out just who it was, Eric Embry, Eddie Gilbert or Billy Joe Travis but I bet it was one of them who filled Jeff's head full of bull to change his attitude without any kind of warning."

On November 4, 1991 Jarrett experienced both highs and lows in the ring. On the downside, Jeff and Robert Fuller lost a title match to Doug Masters and Bart Sawyer. On a positive note, Jarrett won the Redmen battle royal. You can only surmise that at that point, Jeff decided he would be better off on his own and cut all ties with Robert Fuller the following week. He also proclaimed it was time to go after the Southern title once again and the USWA's version of the world's singles title.

Jeff has gone after his former friend, Jerry Lawler with a vengeance. He is desperate for the title and has even resorted to using an illegal chain in the ring to beat up the "King". Lawler is taking Jarrett's threats very seriously and hopes that he contain the youngster before he does serious damage to either himself or an opponent. Robert Fuller, Bill Dundee and "Dirty White Boy" Tony Anthony have all tried to talk some sense into Jeff Jarrett, but so far, they have all failed as he has turned a deaf ear and continues on his destructive path.



▲ *Jeff Jarrett will fight for what he wants.*

You really can't ignore Jeff's impressive wrestling past. Don't forget all the good he's done and try not to be outraged by his new attitude. Keep your fingers crossed that this is only a stage he's going through and will soon outgrow. Time will surely tell, but the sand in the hourglass is running low. We can only hope that Jeff Jarrett will return to his senses and become a wrestling hero once again, instead of a heel. ❑

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TONY CAPONE

THE GODFATHER OF WRESTLING

Capone and his gold will not easily be parted

BY CATHERINE GIGANTE

A long, lean white limousine screeches to a halt in front of an undisclosed location in Wallingford, Connecticut. When the chauffeur rushes to open the door, out steps all 6'4" and 400 pounds of Tony Capone, a/k/a The Godfather. Capone is every bit as menacing in his street clothes, dripping in diamond rings and chomping on his trademark cigar as he is in the mat wars facing an opponent. His stare is so piercing, so intense and bone chilling, that you can't help but look away.

Both in and out of the squared circle, Tony Capone is a force to be reckoned with. He plays with people the way a cat claws a ball of yarn. Capone casts a dark cloud of fear over the ring. Don't let his behemoth dimensions fool you because Capone also possesses the moves and agility usually reserved for smaller athletes. You won't believe his earth shattering power slams and vertical suplexes, not to mention his devastating finishing move; a crushing splash off the top rope. "That's my special rub-out maneuver," Capone grins, pausing to give a cruel laugh. "I annihilate my opponents. I demolish the competition."

As if that's not enough, Capone also takes a perverse pleasure in further humiliating his opponent. After he's flattened one of his foes, he sometimes sprinkles their comatose bodies with black rose petals or lays a stinking mackerel fish at their feet--a sure sign of death and destruction.

Born in Mount Vernon, New York, Capone says he was on the football team and was also an amateur wrestler. "But I was a bad kid," he admits. "I always liked destroying things, even back then. Power of any kind gives me a big thrill. I always want to be in control." What better calling for a low down, mean, nasty dude than a career in professional wrestling?!

Capone was introduced to the sport by former WWF superstar, S.D. Jones. In the three years since, there have been many others who helped him hone his skills, like Bobby Bold Eagle and Mario Mancini. Capone has also learned how to be a brutal law breaker in the ring. He has no regard for the rules and no sense of loyalty. In

fact, he recently turned on his devoted trainer, Mancini simply because he took some well deserved credit when he said he helped Capone reach the full monster capacity he enjoys today. Capone turned on his ex-buddy in a minute. He took him on in the ring with no referee and pulled every dirty move imaginable. Hey, if he treats his friends this way, you can only imagine how The Godfather treats his enemies!

Besides Mancini, Capone has also face and demolished Avalanche, Mike Lawlor, Daytona Drake and Eric the Animal. He also is the proud owner of the IPW (formerly IWF) North American Super Heavyweight Championship belt.

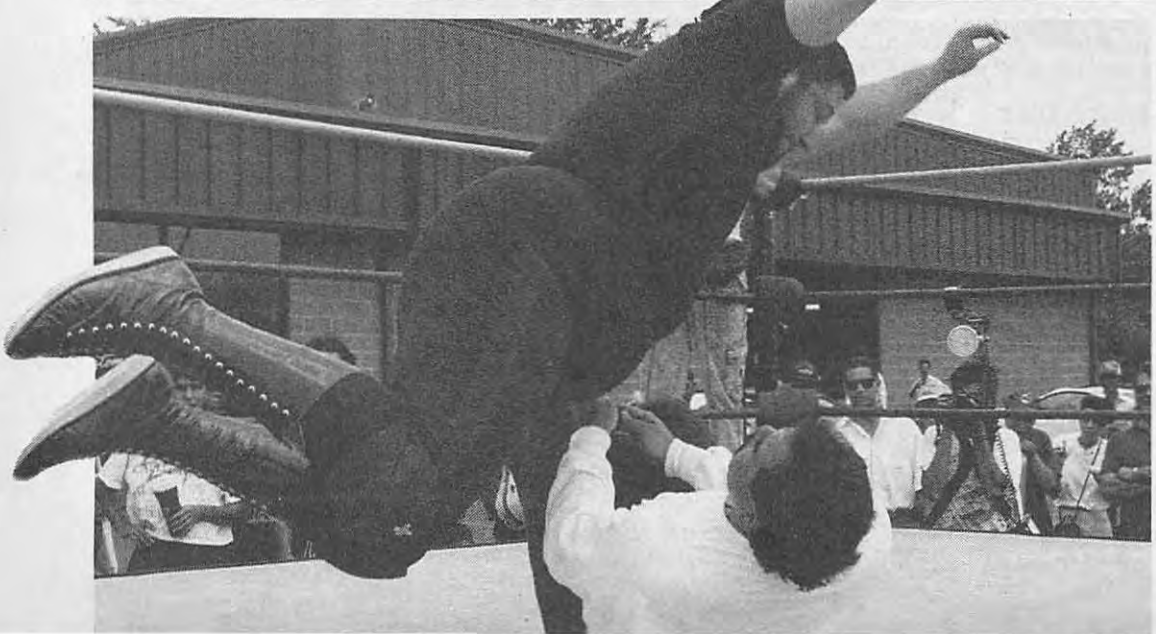
The Godfather proudly wears the solid gold strap around his massive waist, but is quick to remind everyone that "I deserve it." Contrary to what you might think, The Godfather didn't steal the belt, he earned it fair and square. Well, as fair and square as one as ruthless as this self-proclaimed "Godfather of Wrestling" is known to battle his opponents.

As of late, Capone has been blazing a path across the United States and demolishing all those that stand in his way. If things go as planned, Capone expects to be wrestling in Canada and Japan shortly. "And things always go my way," Capone stated confidently. "I have more connections than cable television."

After studying The Godfather in the ring and seeing his astounding acrobatic abilities and sheer brute force firsthand, it's just a matter of time before one of the "big boys" in the wrestling circuit makes him an offer that even The Godfather can't refuse. Be forewarned. The Godfather will soon rule the ring with his iron fist. ❑

EDITOR'S NOTE - As of late, Capone has found much success competing in the UWF, where he is currently recognized as the Super Heavyweight champion. Most recently, The Godfather has started a feud with Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka. Capone attacked The Superfly when he was making a personal appearance for the UWF in Mount Vernon. Promoter Herb Abrams is currently signing a series of grudge matches between the two combatants.

▲ Capone throws his foe over the top rope.



◀ The Godfather delivers his devastating splash to finish off his opponent.

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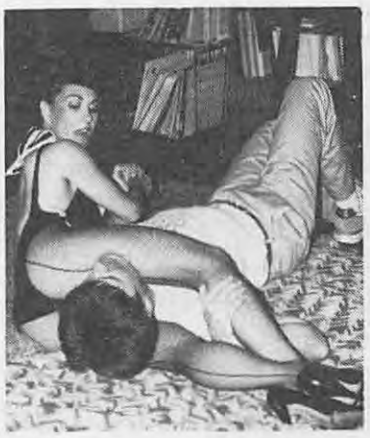

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ON TOUR WIT

BY ED HASKELL

Jules Verne, the literary legend wrote "Around The World In Eighty Days". Well, I was about to embark on a thirty nine day journey that would take me to six different countries. I may not be Jules Verne, but I'm certainly at least half the man he was. Anyway, this is a chronicle detailing the adventures and misadventures of yours truly while on tour with the Wrestling World Superstars. The WWS, comprised of American grapplers have toured the continent of Europe on six previous occasions in the past. With the lack of wrestling journalists in Europe and my abundance of wrestling knowledge I was graciously asked by the promoters of the WWS to join the entourage as a correspondent. Of course being a loyal contributor to WRESTLING EYE, this magazine received the exclusive story.

Day One–Sept. 28th Newark, NJ

What a beautiful place to begin a tour. I believe Beirut would have been a better choice! My arrival to the airport was a great ordeal in itself. First, my taxi cab driver had only two letters in his entire name. Then, after I paid him, he mistakenly drove off with my briefcase! With that in mind, let's now begin the story.

After guzzling a dozen Cokes and having an enormous amount of caffeine streaming through my blood, I saw the first of the WWS stars arrive. It was Tony Atlas. "Hey, Eddie you look real pale, stop shaking! Where's the rest of the guys?"

"Good question, Tony. I don't have a clue. By the way do you want a Coke?"

Instead of answering Tony asked if I still wrote for WRESTLING EYE. When I assured him I did he stated that he wanted to fight Mike Tyson! I asked Tony to repeat this because I thought maybe my excess Coke consumption had damaged my hearing. Atlas amazingly repeated it again. I was about to interject, but at that moment, luckily enough, we were interrupted by S.D. "Special Delivery" Jones. S.D. started some idle chatter about our flight and I relaxed. In a very short time, the remainder of the talent roster appeared. The stars included former USWA high flyer, The Cheetah Kid, the ever patriotic Nikolai Volkoff, the immense Ugandan giant, Kamala, midget sensations, The Irish Leprechaun and Little Louie, East coast sensations Johnny Rotten and Superstar Mike Lane, New England favorites Gorgeous Chris Duffy and the Star Warrior. The ladies on the WWS tour included Rustee "The Foxx" Thomas, Heidi Lee Morgan, Peggy Lee Leather and Malia Hosaka. We began to board the plane and at the last possible moment the very dapper Iron Mike Sharpe arrived. As we settled in, I knew there was something special about this group of people. We all had something in common and our love for wrestling had bonded us into a family.

Day Two and Three are deleted due to lack of space and lack of interest.

Day Four–Oct 1st, Passau, Germany

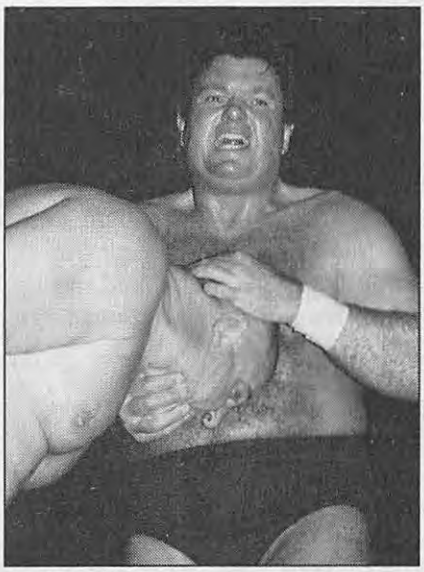
The first city of this monumental tour. Germany is a country that historically has been noted for it's love of wrestling. Grappling here is called "Catch" from the term "catch as can", which is a type of amateur wrestling with freestyle rules. Passau is a quaint town on the bank of the Danube River. The WWS did

▲ *The ever popular Cheetah Kid wowed the European fans.*

▲ *Little Louie and The Irish Leprechaun caused havoc in Oslo.*

H THE WWS

▲ *Peggy Lee Leather and Rustee Thomas strike a pose.*



▲ *Iron Mike Sharpe brings Nikolai down to size.*

very well on opening night and 1100 fans turned out to see eight action packed matches. One interesting note, in Germany, no one under sixteen is admitted to the matches.

Day 5 (somewhere in Germany)

Traveling is a tremendous part of the tour. After a six hour bus ride we arrive in Hameln, Germany. Hameln is the own where the "pied piper" fairy tale originates. The highlight of the ride was Tony Atlas's rendition of Louis Armstrong's "Wonderful World"

▲ *Klaus Wallas and Nikolai Volokoff exchanged training secrets.*

Day 6–Oct 3rd, Hameln

An enthusiastic crowd was on hand to witness a very bizarre match up. The main event pitted favorites Nikolai Volkoff and European champ, Klaus Wallas against Killer, the Texas Hangman and S.D. Jones. Klaus Wallas almost singlehandedly defeated the American team of Jones and his masked partner. Wallas is a former Olympic judo champ and used this technique, along with raw strength to take both opposing team members to the mat.

Day 8–Oct 5th, Aschaffenberg, Germany

Yet another success for the WWS. The main event of the evening featured Kamala the Ugandan giant against Tony "Mr USA" Atlas. The match quickly turned ugly and both grapplers were counted out of the ring as the match was declared a no contest.

Day 10–Oct 8th, Vienna, Austria

After an entire day of traveling we arrive in the cultural center of the universe. The next two days were spent interviewing with the local media. Austrian promoter Otto Wanz was thrilled with the appearance of the American wrestlers. In one main event, local hero Klaus Wallas defeated Iron Mike Sharpe after a tough match. After nineteen minutes, Wallas pinned Sharpe with his patented belly to back suplex.

ON TOUR WITH THE WWS

Day 16—Oct 14th, Oslo, Norway

Talk about bizarre. Upon our arrival to this beautiful Scandinavian city we were met by a group of four foot tall protesters. They were objecting to the apparent (or so they thought!) exploitation of the WWS's midget sensations, Little Louie and The Irish Leprechaun. Later that evening, Little Louie pinned the Leprechaun to a standing ovation of 5,000 fans.

Day 20—Oct 18th, Vigo, Spain

Early in the day, the wrestlers were graciously presented the key to the city by the mayor of Vigo. That evening, The Cheetah Kid teamed with The Star Warrior to take on the WWS premier duo of the "Suicide Blondes", Chris Duffy and Johnny Rotten. The Cheetah Kid thrilled the 3,000 plus fans with his high flying moves. At one point he even threw both blonde youngsters out of the ring and delivered his patented flying crossbody kick over the top rope on to his two prone opponents. The Star Warrior also showed tremendous aerial ability with his use of ultra powerful dropkicks. Moments later, The Cheetah Kid executed his moonsault press (a la The Great Muta) on to Johnny Rotten and claimed victory for his team.

Day 22—Oct 20th, La Coruna, Spain

The afternoon action took place at the Plaza De Torres. In an unusual occurrence, wrestling would be replacing bull fighting here

An enthusiastic crowd turned out to support American "Catch". One of the most impressive matches of the show took place between the ladies of the WWS. Heidi Lee Morgan and Malia Hosaka challenged the WWS Ladies Tag Team champion, Peggy Lee Leather and Rustee "The Foxx" Thomas. Hosaka started the match off with her knowledge of the martial arts. In fact, one of her spinning kicks almost broke Rustee's nose. Rustee returned the favor with a kick to the mid section that saw the Japanese sensation double over in pain. From there Rustee followed up with a reverse chinlock combined with a half nelson that caused Hosaka's face to turn a brilliant shade of purple! Rustee still wasn't finished though. She tagged out to Peggy Lee Leather who continued the onslaught. Malia gathered all her strength and in desperation tagged in her partner, Heidi Lee Morgan. Heidi then took control of the match, and at one point vaulted both of her adversaries over the top rope. Then, ala The Cheetah Kid, Heidi leaped off the top rope and hit Leather and Thomas with a flying crossbody block, fifteen feet below on the arena floor. Upon her return to the ring, Heidi pinned Rustee with a small package and secured a victory and the WWS Ladies Tag Team straps.

▲ *The Star Warrior unloads his left fist first.*

Other cities were also featured on the tour including such German sites as Homburg, Ismanning, and Straubling. Other venues in Spain included Barcelona, Madrid, La Grandollers, Zaragoza and Victoria. Due to lack of space my adventures in these cities with the WWS crew had to be deleted.

All in all, the WWS tour was the highlight of my career. For almost six weeks I spent day and night with professional wrestlers. They may be rowdy, they may be party animals, they may even be children at heart, but most of all they are men and women that take pride in what they do. They delivered entertainment to places where pro wrestling is rarely heard of. In closing, the WWS stars built a foundation for which American wrestling can grow on in the future. ❑

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Ashley Ryan vs Linda Dallas
Indian Strap Match
Kat Laroux vs The Lock
U.S. Ladies Champion Match
Candi Divine vs Peggy Patterson
Brandy Mae vs Peggy Lee Leather
Dynamite Interview:
Misty Blue vs Madusa Miceli
World Title Championship Match
Heidi Lee Morgan vs Madusa

PRO - VOLUME 2 - 60 MIN

Five Matches Starring:
Candi Divine vs Joyce Grable
Bambi vs Debbie Combs
(with Cora Combs mgr.)
Heidi Lee Morgan vs
Peggy Lee Leather
Jean Kirkland / Ramona Isbell vs Susan Green / Katy Kincaid
Susan Sexton vs O'Sheena
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PRO - VOLUME 3 - 60 MIN

Debbie Combs vs Candi Divine
Madusa Micelli vs Brandy Mae
(with Cora Combs mgr.)
Debbie Combs confronts **Misty Blue** about her so-called title!
Kat Larous vs Susan Green
Handicap Match
O'Sheena vs Susan Green
Katy Kincad
Heidi Lee Morgan vs
Baby Face Nellie
Tag Team Champion Match
Olympia / Bambi vs Peggy Lee Leather / Donna Day

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World Womens Title Match
Fabulous Moolah **vs** Dawn Marie
Special Event
Linda Dallas **vs** Misty Blue
Semi Main Event - World Womens Tag Team Title Match
Comrad Orga & Peggy Pat **vs** Sue Sexton & Heidi Lee Morgan
Grudge Match
Peggy Patterson **vs** Heidi Lee

PRO - VOLUME 5 - 60 MIN

Light Weight Title
Dawn Marie **vs** Kat Laroux
Womens World Tag Team Title Match
Malia Hosaka **vs** Linda Dallas
Comrad Orga **vs** Sue Sexton
Peggy Patterson **vs** Heidi Lee Morgan
(with manager Garheart Kaiser)
World Womens Title Match
Misty Blue **vs** Fabulous Moolah
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!!!
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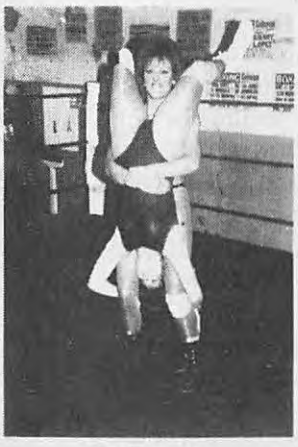

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PHANTOM of the ring

Well, I'm back with some hot gossip. . . First, the controversy continues with the steroid saga. The WWF has recently been professing to using a state of the art steroid testing procedure that is supposed to be superior to any other in professional sports. Thus far though, there have been a few flaws in their testing as well as other promotions. It seems that many wrestlers have beaten the tests. First, many of them know of the testing date weeks in advance (even though the tests are said to be unannounced and random). Some others don't even take precautions to beat the test. They feel that the tests aren't legit and if someone fails they are not going to be suspended from the promotion. After all, they figure they are too important to be suspended. Might do some of them good to lose a week's paycheck if they fail. Maybe then they'd learn. Some wrestlers though, appear to have stopped the use of steroids. Many once well chiseled wrestlers are now flabbier and smaller. The steroid saga is definitely not over. . . **LEX LUGER**, the WCW World's Champ has been threatening to quit the promotion. Apparently the champ insisted that his manager **HARLEY RACE** be at his side at all times and accompany him to the ring. The WCW responded by almost firing **RACE** instead. LUGER also has refused to wrestle in any foreign countries. He does wrestle in Canada and most recently has appeared in England, but refuses to travel to Japan. Not to fear though, insiders are predicting that everything will be worked out and LUGER will be around for a long time to come. . . The **ULTIMATE WARRIOR** will reportedly be signing with WCW very soon, (by the time you read this, he may already be in WCW rings) and will challenge LUGER for the gold. The WARRIOR could very well be LUGER'S successor. There is a problem concerning the use of The ULTIMATE WARRIOR'S name, though. It seems that the WWF owns both the name and the likeness (the face paint and character) of the WARRIOR. If WCW uses the ULTIMATE WARRIOR as we know him, there could be a potential lawsuit between the two promotions. . . **PAUL ROMA**, formerly of the WWF is now going to be joining the American Gladiators. ROMA fits in perfectly!. . . A lot of criticism towards WCW's **VAN HAMMER**. It seems that most of the experts and critics dislike him for his lack of wrestling skills but they shouldn't knock the guy! He's 6'6", really put together and has a lot of potential. He wrestles much better than the WARRIOR did when he started in the business, and after wrestling for only four years, the WARRIOR is a millionaire. The same could very well happen for VAN HAMMER. . . Every hard core fan has been raving over **JUSHIN LIGER** from Japan. Most say he's the greatest masked wrestler ever to come out of that country since **TIGER MASK**. Well, I say that **LIGER** couldn't shine TIGER MASK'S shoes! LIGER does one at the most two moves per match. He does the same flying leap over the top rope that a half a dozen different guys in the states do, (like **STING**, **BRIAN PILLMAN** and The **CHEETAH KID**). He doesn't move as fluidly or as quickly as TIGER MASK either. Considering Liger is only 5'4" and

Rumors are flying that Dusty Rhodes will don wrestling tights once again.

doesn't have a great physique, I believe he is grossly overrated. Wrestlers in Mexico with only six months in the business do more high flying moves than LIGER. In closing if LIGER was 6'3" and weighed 250 pounds and did the moves that he does then I would be impressed. If you want to see some real high flying, watch a wrestling video from Mexico or a old match of TIGER MASK'S and I'm sure most of you will see that LIGER is grossly overrated. . . The WCW recently toured England with disastrous results. Considering that the WWF sold out every English venue, the WCW should be ashamed. . . **MADUSA MICELI** has been a very impressive addition to **PAUL E.'s DANGEROUS ALLIANCE**. By the way, MADUSA learned that round house kick while on tour kick boxing in Thailand. The DANGEROUS ALLIANCE is quickly becoming the new version of the **FOUR HORSEMEN**. PAUL E. is definitely back in the managerial picture. . . Former pro boxer, **LEON SPHINKS** and the legendary **ORIGINAL SHEIK** are currently wrestling for the Japanese promotion, FMW. The SHEIK is feuding with **ATUSUSHI ONITA**. . . Former heavyweight boxing champ, **TREVOR BERBECK** signed to take on wrestler **HOBUHIKO TAKADA** in Tokyo. . . **TERRY FUNK** can now be seen in his new television series entitled "Tequila and Boner". It can be seen on CBS and let me tell you, FUNK is terrific in his role. . . The American Wrestling Federation has signed **GIANT HAYSTACKS** from England. HAYSTACKS is 6'7" and weighs 570 pounds! This guy is the British version of **ANDRE THE GIANT** and should be quite a sight to see. . . That's it from my desk, see ya all next month! ❑

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3. Bret Hart
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5. Ted DiBiase
6. Davey Boy Smith
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8. Jim Duggan
9. IRS
10. Greg Valentine
11. Earthquake
12. Repo Man
13. Big Boss Man
14. The Mountie
15. Jim Powers

W.C.W.

CHAMP-LEX LUGER

1. Sting
2. Dustin Rhodes
3. Rick Rude
4. "Stunning" Steve Austin
5. Bobby Eaton
6. Ricky Steamboat
7. Larry Zbyszko
8. Bill Kazmaier
9. Johnny B Badd
10. Brian Pillman
11. Van Hammer
12. The Diamond Studd
13. Cactus Jack
14. Terrence Taylor
15. Oz

Lex Luger is WCW's heavyweight champion.

U.S.W.A.

1. Jerry Lawler
2. Jeff Jarrett
3. Eric Embry
4. Robert Fuller
5. Jeff Gaylord
6. Billy Joe Travis
7. Dr. Tom Pritchard
8. Dirty White Boy
9. Kamala
10. Black Magic

A.W.F.

1. Paul Orndorff
2. Nikita Koloff
3. Dan Spivey
4. Steve Williams
5. Sunny Beach
6. The Original Sheik
7. Manny Fernandez
8. Dutch Mantel
9. Iron Mike Sharpe
10. Hercules Ayala

N.W.F.

1. Abdullah the Butcher
2. Cousin Luke
3. The Original Sheik
4. Buddy Rose
5. Jules Strongbow
6. Col DeBeers
7. Larry Winters
8. Ivan Koloff
9. Bobby Fulton
10. Dusty Wolfe

G.W.F.

1. The Patriot
2. Scott Anthony
3. Makhan Singh
4. Chaz
5. Lightning Kid
6. Sam Houston
7. Axis the Demolisher
8. "Sweet" Stan Lane
9. John Tatum
10. Rod Price

WORLD WOMEN'S RATINGS

1. Misty Blue
2. Lady X
3. Linda Dallas
4. Madusa Miceli
5. Rustee Thomas
6. Kat Leroux
7. Malia Hosaka
8. Luna Vachon
9. Susan Sexton
10. Bambi

TOP TEN MANAGERS

1. Paul Bearer
2. Jimmy Hart
3. Teddy Long
4. Paul E. Dangerously
5. Jim Cornette
6. Slick
7. Mr. Fuji
8. Lady Blossom
9. Sensational Sherri
10. Harvey Whippleman

Madusa Miceli rates 4th in the women's rankings.

TOP 15 TAG TEAMS

1. The Legion of Doom
2. Ricky Steamboat & Dustin Rhodes
3. The Freebirds
4. The Nasty Boys
5. The Patriots
6. The Bushwackers
7. The Terrence Taylor & Richard Morton
8. The Natural Disasters
9. The California Connection
10. The Beverly Brothers
11. The Young Pistols
12. The Renegade Warriors
13. Steve Simpson & Chris Walker
14. Eddie Gilbert & Scott Anthony
15. The Moondogs

TOP 15 (rated by wrestling ability)

1. Ric Flair
2. Bret Hart
3. Lex Luger
4. Sting
5. Scott Steiner
6. The Undertaker
7. Ricky Steamboat
8. Shawn Michaels
9. Jeff Jarrett
10. Cactus Jack
11. Brian Pillman
12. Arn Anderson
13. Ted DiBiase
14. Davey Boy Smith
15. The Patriot

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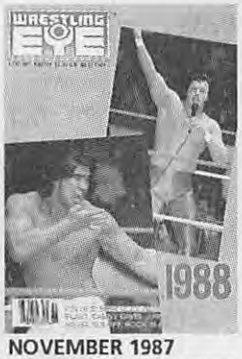

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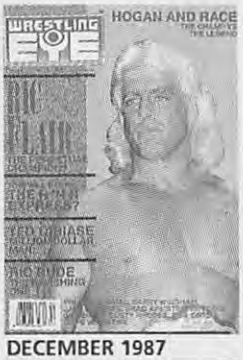

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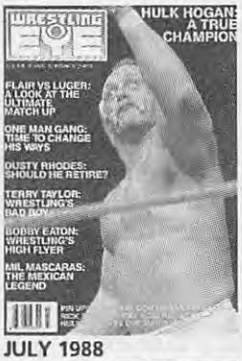

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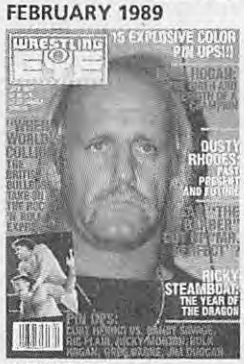

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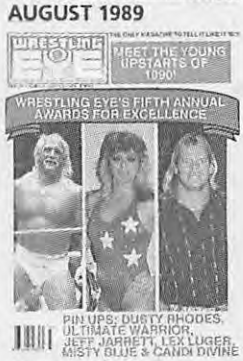

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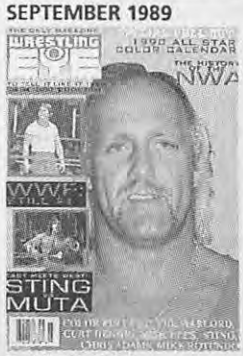

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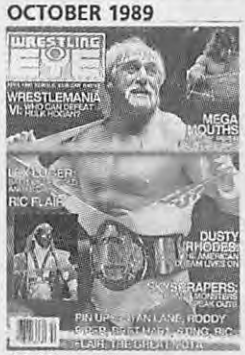

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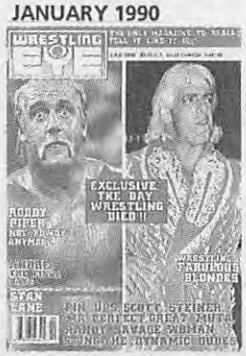

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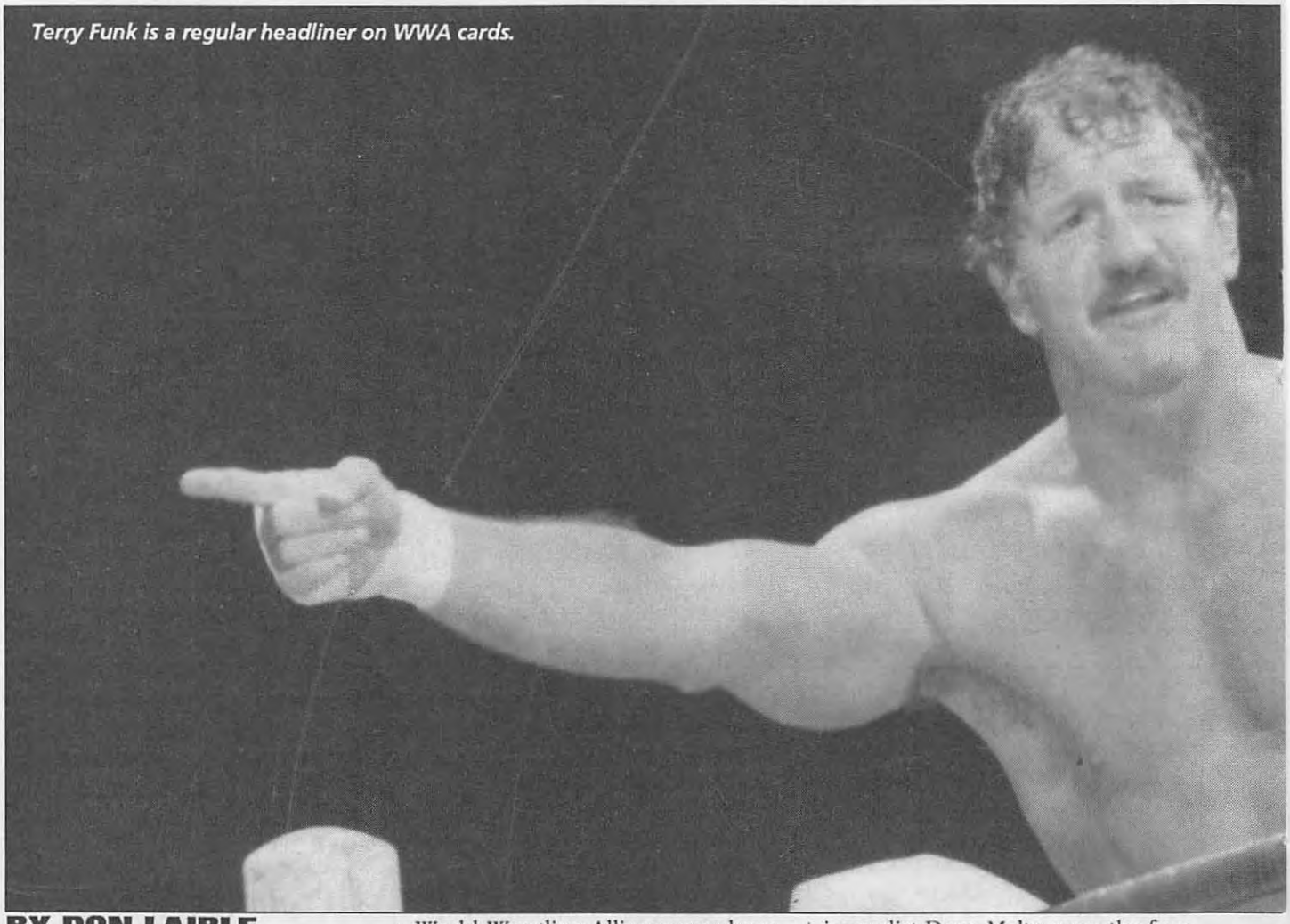

Terry Funk is a regular headliner on WWA cards.

BY DON LAIBLE

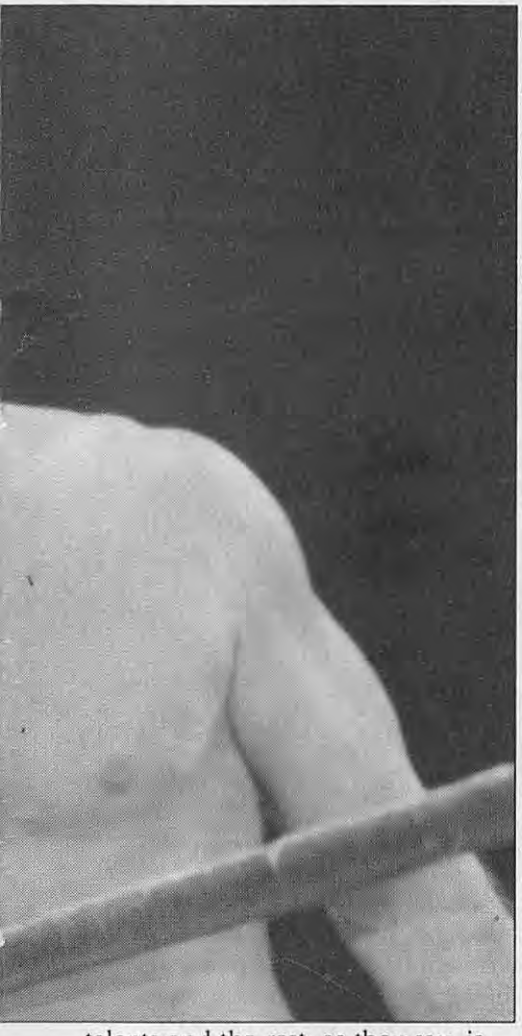
It's not always rewarding either financially, personally or professionally but there are scores of people hoping to be the one to hit the big-time as wrestling promoters. For New Jersey's Dennis Coraluzzo it was a love affair with the sport since his childhood, so it was only natural he pursue this dream. The World Wrestling Alliance was born in 1987 and has been getting stronger and stronger with each passing year.

He is not afraid nor too proud to seek advice. Coraluzzo has gone to the experts, those who have wrestled, as well as those who study the sport to help him with his dream. Former World Heavyweight Champion Terry Funk, "Beautiful" Bobby Eaton, manager, Jim Cornette and journalist Dave Meltzer are the four men who Coraluzzo credits with helping him make his dream become a reality.

"Promoting is a continuous learning process and these four guys taught have taught me a lot," Coraluzzo stated. "I don't know what I would have done without them." Dennis Coraluzzo also turns to his partner, "Pretty Boy" Larry Sharpe for advice as well. Sharpe

trains many of the top youngsters who appear on WWA cards, once graduating from his world-famous Monster Factory.

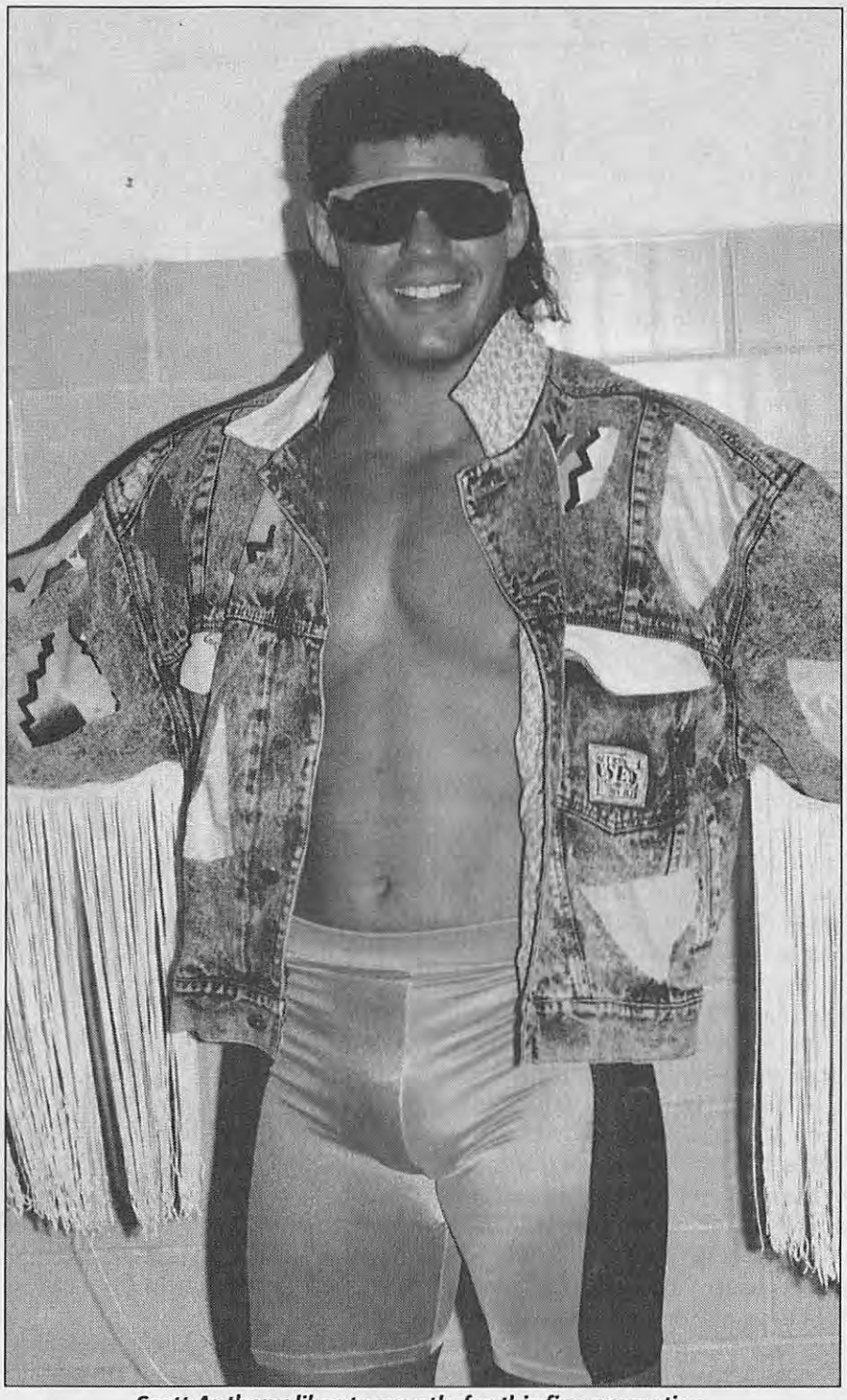
Virgil, King Kong Bundy and The Rochester Roadblock are just three of today's superstars that got their start training with the "Pretty Boy" of Paulsboro, New Jersey. Another internationally recognized wrestling sensation who owes his winning ways to Sharpe is Bam Bam Bigelow. Larry recognized the talent in him after just one workout. "Larry knew he had someone with special



talents and the rest, as they say, is history, "Dennis declared.

Putting together wrestling cards that fans will support isn't always easy or attainable but Dennis tries to do his best. If you need proof just take a look at the WWA's last Royal Rumble card.

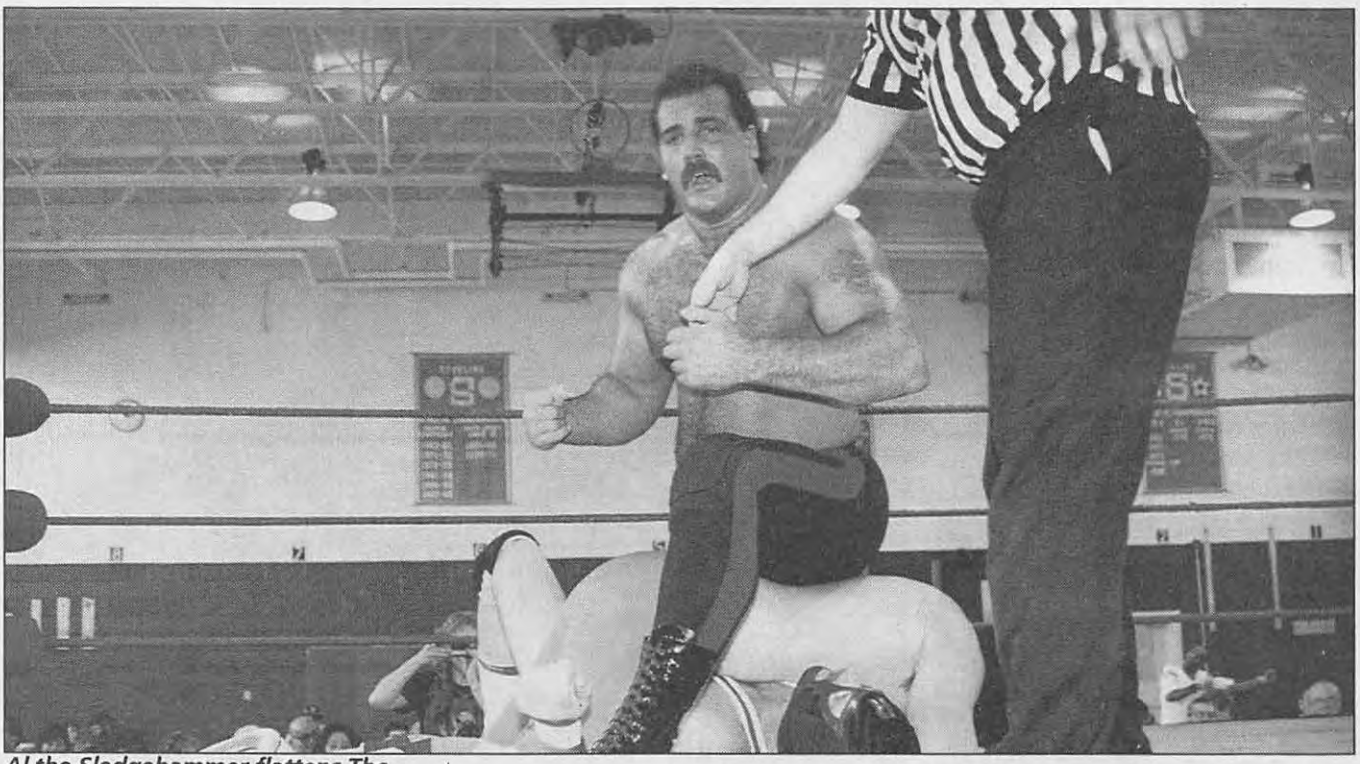
Coraluzzo managed to sign two former world titleists to square off against each other. Bob Backlund and Terry Funk did a tremendous job in drawing the crowds in and they didn't disappoint. "Pretty Boy" Sharpe was booked to challenge Cowboy Bob Orton, Jr. in his retirement match and in a mixed tag encounter, Jerry Lawler and manager Mark Curtis squared off against "Sweet" Stan Lane and his manager, Jim Cornette.



Scott Anthony likes to wrestle for this fine promotion.

"Larry and I are extremely proud of the boys who have come up through the WWA ranks," Dennis said. "Our Heavyweight champion, The Golden Phoenix puts on moves that will amaze you. All WWA promotions are a total team effort. We average about two dozen cards a year and we do so without the luxury of having a wrestling television show. All in all, I think that's pretty darn good."

With all the time and effort put into each card, financial success is not guaranteed, but it's the fan in



Al the Sledgehammer flattens The Ringmaster.

him that makes Dennis keep plugging away. Both he and Sharpe have made money though, on all but three cards presented this past year. When selling their product (the WWA) to potential sponsors, their personal reputations are put on the line, so they always try to put on a first-rate card. Educating the sponsors is essential for projecting a successful card. "You tell them straight out, you have to sell so many tickets to make so many dollars," Dennis explained. Larry and I give them ideas on what has worked in the past in generating high ticket sales, but a card's overall success usually depends on how hard the sponsors will hustle to get the word out about their event."

The WWA presents cards that are free of gimmickry, so very few matches end in controversy. When witnessing a WWA sanctioned match, it's easy to tell who the victor is because he usually scores a clean pinfall. The two driving forces behind the WWA are proud of their cards and are somewhat in awe as to how far they have come since starting in January of 1987. In looking back on the birth of their association, Coraluzzo claims destiny brought them together since

Cactus Jack has done his dirty work inside WWA rings.

they only live five blocks from each other.

Coraluzzo always keeps the fans best interests in mind and always looks to give them what he thinks they want to see. Some of his greatest achievements have come about through the pairing of veteran grappling greats with today's superstars. It's not uncommon to see Lou Thesz or Al Costello facing off against Terry Funk or Al the Sledgehammer, and these match ups always prove to be very exciting.

With Dennis Coraluzzo and "Pretty Boy" Larry Sharpe at the helm, there's no way the WWA can lose. You won't hear either promoter say an unkind word concerning the so-called major leagues of wrestling or fellow independents. They firmly believe there is room for all to compete. The WWA's energies are not wasted on attempting to out-do their opposition, they just want to improve their product to new heights of professionalism. ❑

You can write to the WWA at: Excalibur Promotions 1020 Cooper Street Deptford, New Jersey 08096.

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Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I've been paying a great deal of attention to both organizations lately and this time the WWF has really taken the cake. I just can't go along with the return and the hero welcome the crowd is giving Sgt. Slaughter. He makes me sick when he comes running to save "Old Glory" as he calls it, from touching the ground. It seems hard to believe that he has done such an about face since only a few short months ago he was burning it on pay per view, spitting on it, and the worst part, making disgusting comments about the brave men and women who served in the Desert Storm war.

I think that making him a hero again is a giant mistake on the WWF's part, especially since their matches have improved so greatly these past few months. It seems to me that they would want to keep fans since they are really on track and have been leaving WCW outside the arena doors knocking to get back into the major cities again. I hope the WWF reconsiders and phases Slaughter out for good because no organization needs trash like him in it.

Grace Gardner
Great Bend, Ks

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

We here in Iowa have discovered too, after a little while, how deceitful the WWF really is so that's why we have been turning to your magazine more and more.

You tell the whole truth and not just want people want to hear. So if you could, please tell us what has happened to our dear Jim Helwig (The Ultimate Warrior)!!! There are thousands of people who have watched him for a very long time and have no idea where he is. The WWF says NOTHING and just ignores the fact that he is gone. We have heard a hundred different stories and are counting on you to give us the truth.

Gina L. Sandahl
Ft. Dodge, Ia

EDITOR'S NOTE - For the whole truth, check out our article on the Warrior starting on page 12.

The Ultimate Warrior still has many fans.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I think that WCW wrestling shows are much better than the WWF ones because the WWF has too much talk and too many stunts to really be enjoyable.

I also think that the ladies do a great job in the ring and would love to see more of them on British television. By the way, I also think your magazine is the best. Keep up the great work!

G.T.
Manchester, England

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

First of all I would like to congratulate you on a great magazine. I would also like to bring up the

subject of wrestlers in the WWF who change their identities and names. For instance, The Undertaker was known as "Mean" Mark Callous in WCW, Skinner is none other than Steve Keirn and lastly, one half of the former WWF tag team champion, Demolition, Smash, now wrestlers in singles bouts as Repo Man.

I highly commend Vince McMahon for adding new dimensions to these already exciting wrestlers. Since he's done this, nobody can call any WWF shows boring, that's for sure!

Bernard Brady
West Wales, Great Britain

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I have to tell you how glad I am that Ricky Steamboat is now back in WCW. He is a first rate contender and deserved much better treatment that he got in the WWF. He was very smart to jump ship to a promotion that appreciated him.

Gold and Ricky Steamboat just seem to go together so it's no wonder that he won the tag team belts along with Dustin Rhodes. This man is a champion in his own right and will rule WCW rings for many years to come. Long live Ricky Steamboat!!!

Karen Hollis
Alexandria, Va

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I am a wrestling fan here in Australia and I'm very upset because our television stations in Melbourne have taken wrestling off the air. We are not happy about this and now the only way we can find out about what's happening is by buying wrestling magazines and renting videotapes.

I would like to ask the WWF to please come to Australia because I would love to see Randy Savage wrestle. He has always been my hero and I would give anything to see him in person. Please promoters, don't forget that you have many wrestling fans here who would love to see some live wrestling action.

Joyce Draper
Victoria, Australia

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Just a few lines to say how much I enjoy your magazine. I buy it all the time and collect pin ups and stories about The Undertaker.

I thought the rematch between The Undertaker and Hulk Hogan was so unfair. I mean, no other wrestler had to put up the belt just six days after winning it, but The Undertaker did. Things would have still been okay because The Undertaker was kicking Hogan's butt real good, but then that fool, Ric Flair decided to stick his two cents in. Sure, he tried to help the Undertaker but ended up hitting him instead. The whole thing was so unfair and all I can say is that The Undertaker will once again wear Hogan's gold and Hogan will end up being carried out of that match in a body bag!

Etta Arceri
Newburgh, NY

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MADUSA MICELI

MAKING A DANGEROUS ALLIANCE

◀ *Madusa enjoys a drink in Paul E.'s limo.*

BY STEVE MUELLER

Over the last few years, Madusa Miceli has achieved a high level of respect among the purists of the wrestling business. Such was not always the case.

Early in her career, when she was Verne Gagne's American Wrestling Association Woman's Champion and designated female valet and manager, Madusa was portrayed as an extremely hip, sexy woman with little real wrestling skill. Basically, it seemed she was recruited simply to fill the void left by Sherri Martel's departure to the World Wrestling Federation. Wrestling experts pretty much agreed that Madusa was just another pretty face passing through the floundering AWA on her way to certain stardom among the G.L.O.W. girls.

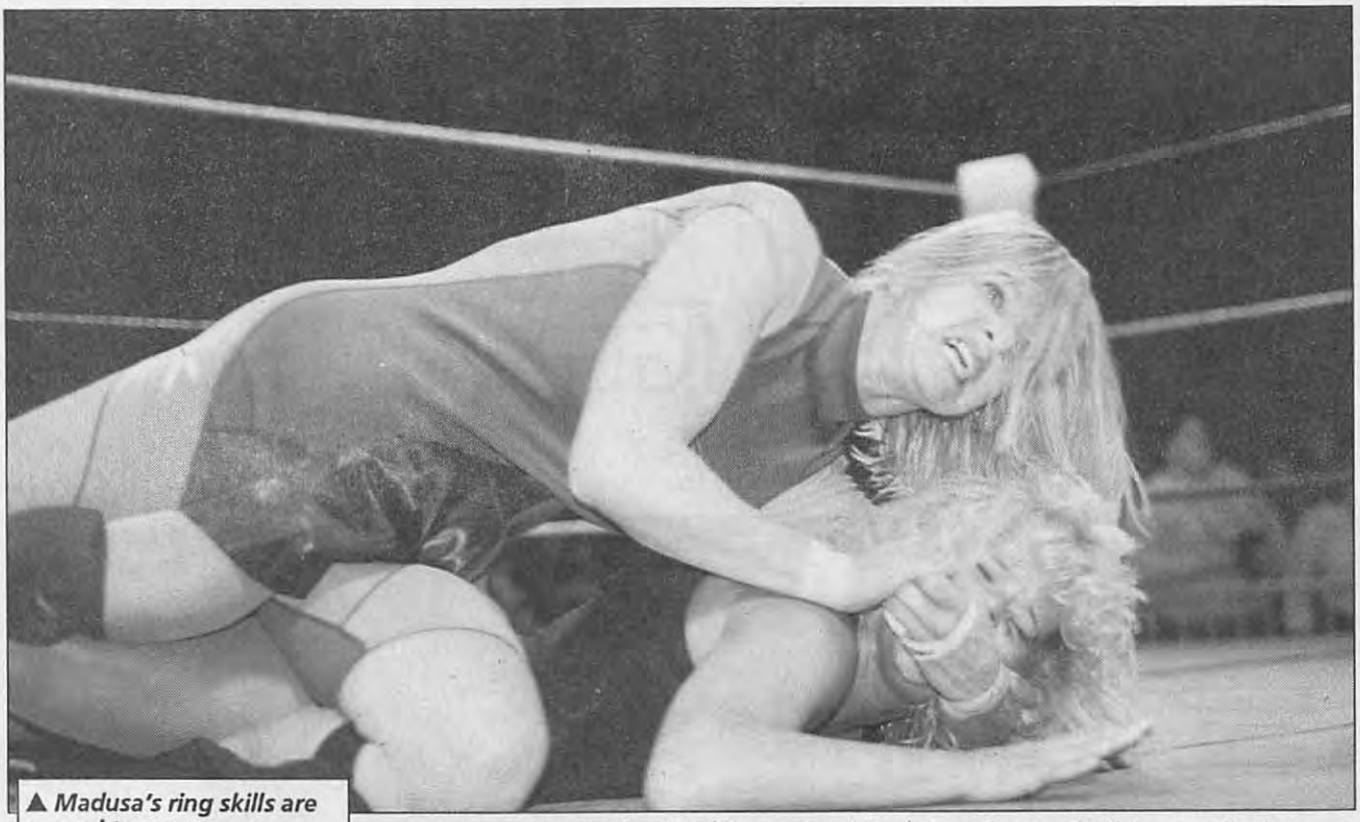
But the experts didn't realize that Madusa was fiercely determined to become a premier technical wrestler. She didn't complain about the bad press she was receiving, but rather, did something about it.

JAPAN: THE MODERN TRAINING GROUND

In the modern professional wrestling world, Japan has become the mecca of technical wrestling skills. It is the sport's best training ground for technical wrestling success. While America's major national promotions sink deeper and deeper in the oozing sludge of a circus sideshow world of Undertakers and Heavy Metal Van Hammers, Japanese wrestling continues to focus on mat skill and wrestling technique as the barometers of success. In Japan, to achieve success, a wrestler must be far more than a heavily muscled cartoon character with delusions of grandeur or a bizarre, ill tempered desperado. In Japan, successful professional wrestlers are accomplished ring technicians.

Additionally, Japan is one of the few places in the wrestling world where women wrestlers are treated as equals of the men in terms of athletic ability and ring skill. In fact, some of the best drawing house shows in the Land of the Rising Sun are staged by female only promotions. And these are not promotions that resemble America's GLOW or POW where glamour girls mimic wrestling moves. Japan's female

◀ *The stunning Madusa Miceli is once again making wrestling headlines.*



▲ *Madusa's ring skills are second to none.*

promotions are marked by a strong emphasis on ring skill and technical know-how.

SUCCESS IN A GRIM WRESTLING WORLD

It is into this tough, grim wrestling world that Madusa went to try to learn the business of ring skill, to become a technically proficient wrestler.

And she was successful in that attempt. During her stay in Japan, where she worked for that country's premier woman's wrestling organization, Madusa excelled and became one of the most respected American woman wrestlers ever to appear in the extremely difficult world of Japanese female wrestling.

RETURN TO AMERICA

In October, 1991, Madusa suddenly reappeared in America on an edition of WCW's World Championship Wrestling Saturday cablecast on TBS. Initially, she was cast a heroine, attired in gym togs and looking like a legitimate athlete. Her first role was to leap into the ring and help Sting and others retrieve foreign objects hidden in various spots on the body of Steve Austin's voluptuously evil manager, Lady Blossom.

Then, just as suddenly, she appeared on Halloween Havoc Pay-Per-View Spectacular as part of Paul E. Dangerously's hastily assembled "Dangerous Alliance". Madusa's work-out togs were replaced by a designer gown. And she snarled so well into the camera, she appeared to be the WWF's Sensational Sherri without grotesque face paint.

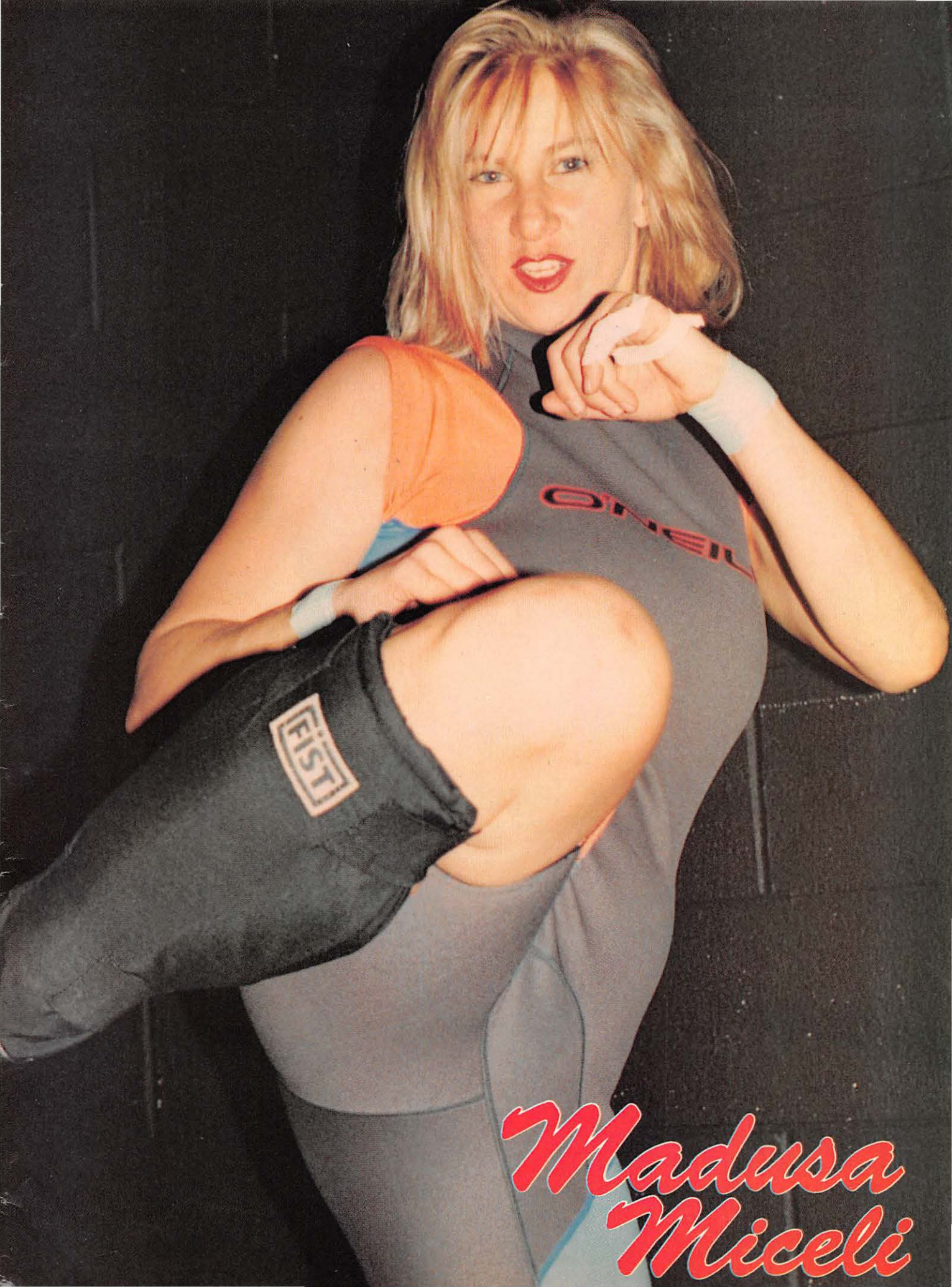
To achieve this change from heroine to villainess, WCW surely must have orchestrated an elaborate wrestling angle. It certainly must have been some grandly designed scheme of wealth and opportunity corrupting the once noble Madusa. Right? I mean, by no stretch of the imagination could WCW have Madusa appear one day as Sting's friend and helper, and then the next as Paul E. Dangerously sinister cohort without explaining the change to the fans? Or could they?

Unfortunately, this is exactly what happened. And that lack of any semblance of coherent booking is perhaps WCW's biggest problem today. Random booking makes long term fans throw up their hands in frustration and switch off WCW broadcasts. Booking continuity problems are not only annoying, they completely eliminate the effectiveness of an angle run by the wrestling promotion. Simply, the promotion ceases to have any booking credibility.

To establish Madusa Miceli as a viable wrestling character, some sort of believable scenario should have been used. It would not have taken very much work to establish her change of heart, her turn to the dark side. She could have been portrayed in a video segment as being corrupted by the evil scheming and empty promises of Dangerously.

Then again, an even more simple solution is obvious. Madusa could have debuted in WCW as a villainess. Why have her do run-ins in support of Sting, if the plan is for her to become the WCW's answer to Sensational Sherri?

Unfortunately, WCW failure to establish a genuine persona for Madusa can only hurt her the development of her wrestling career. And this is a shame because Madusa Miceli has certainly taken the hard road to achieve the success in the mat sport. She deserves better treatment by the WCW braintrust, such as it is. ❑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Madusa
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ROBERT FULLER

PHOTO BY JERRY WILSON

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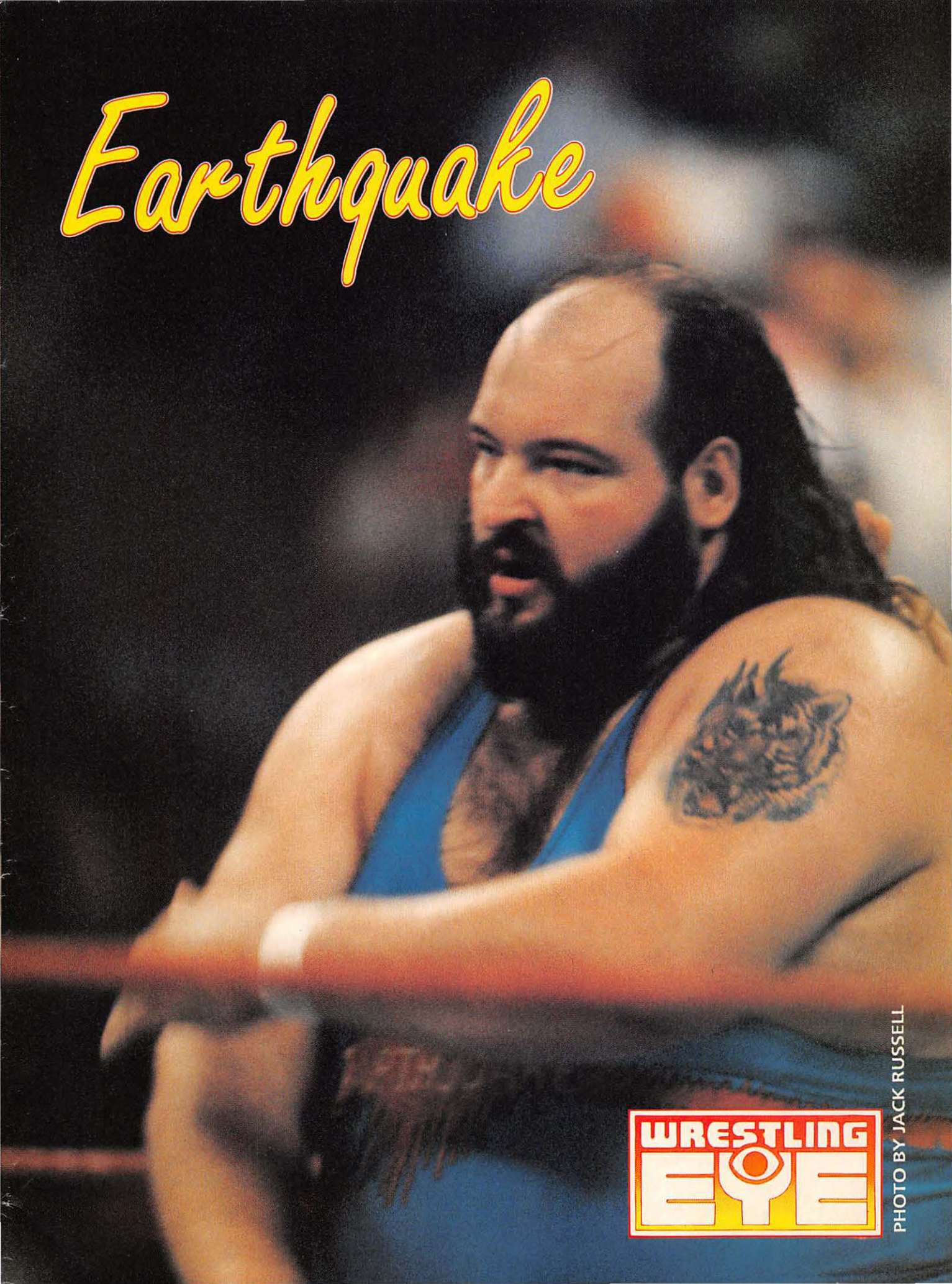

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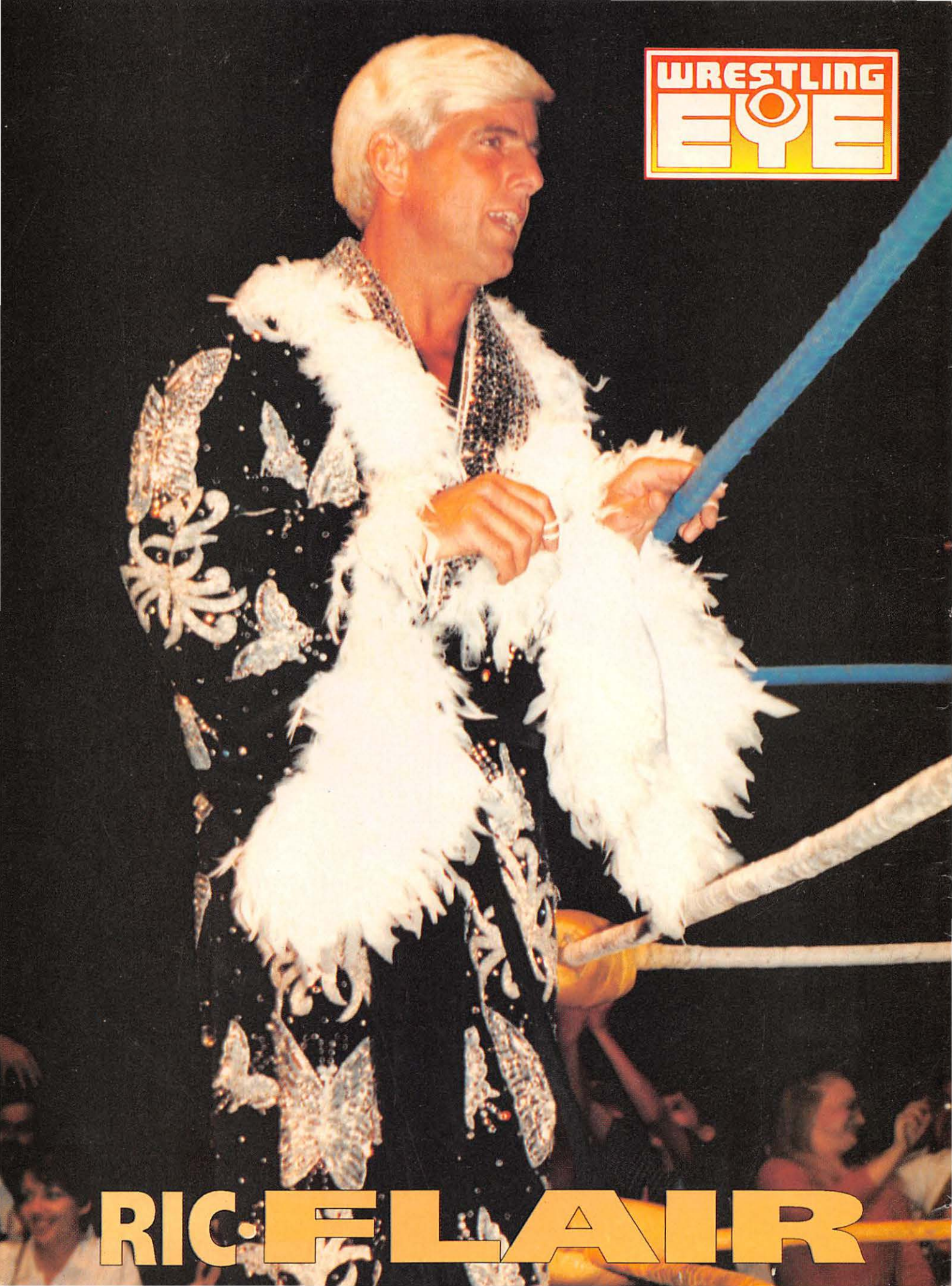
PHOTO BY JACK RUSSELL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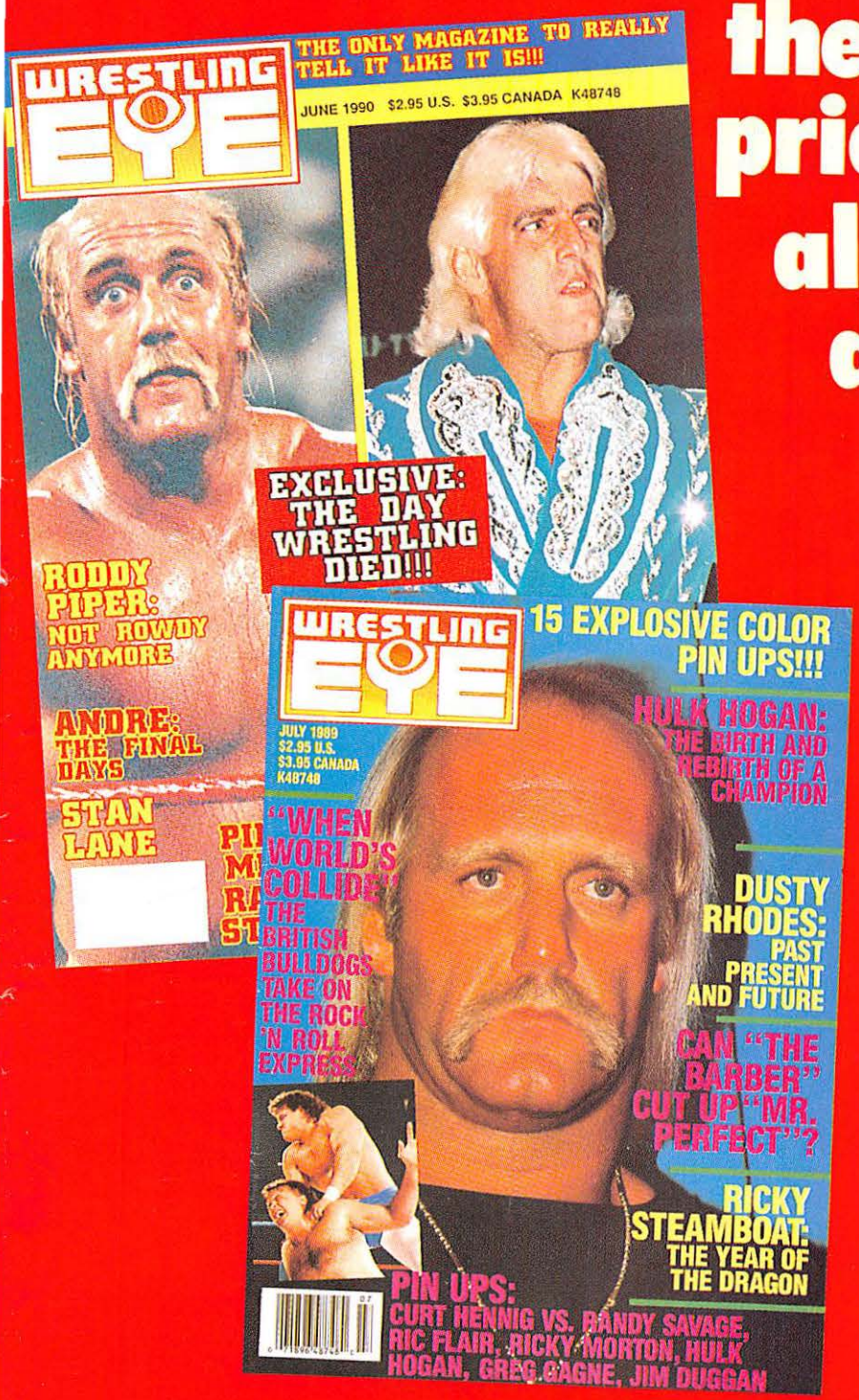

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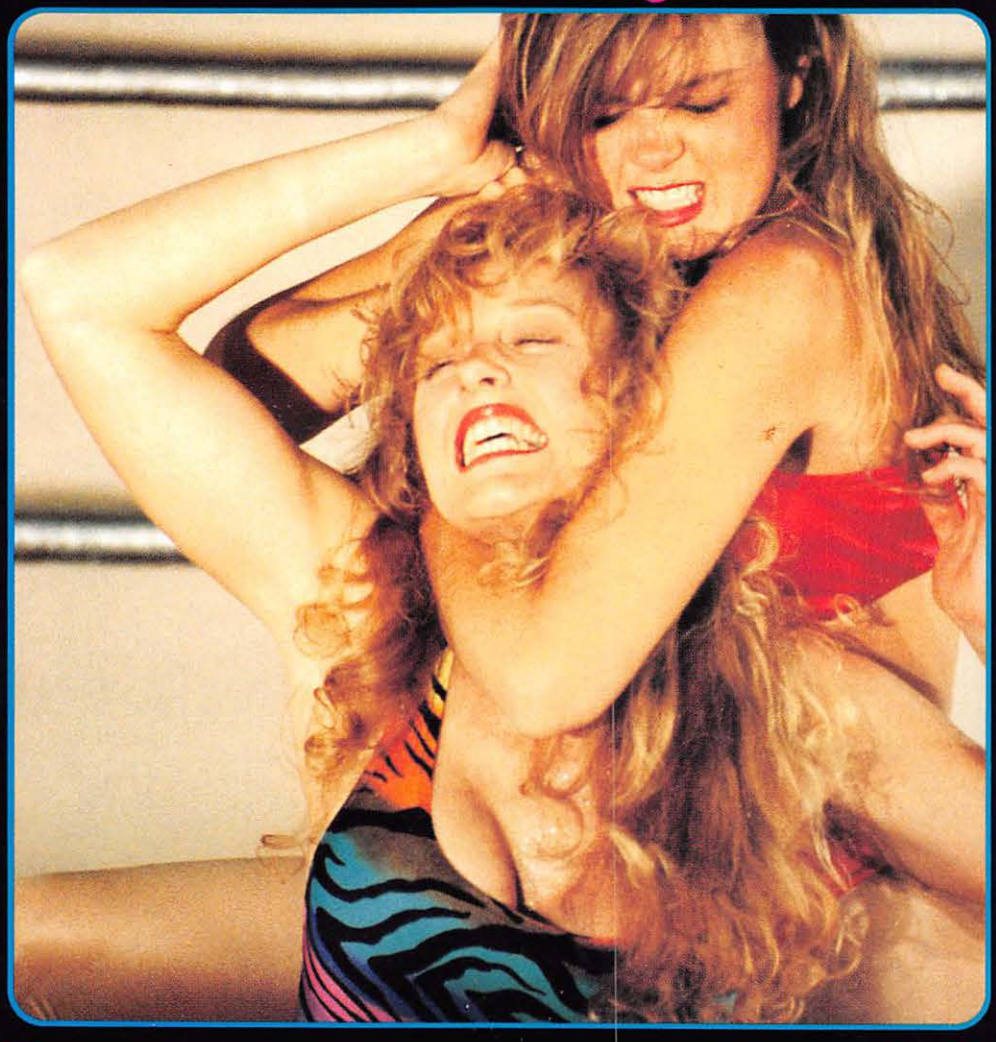

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